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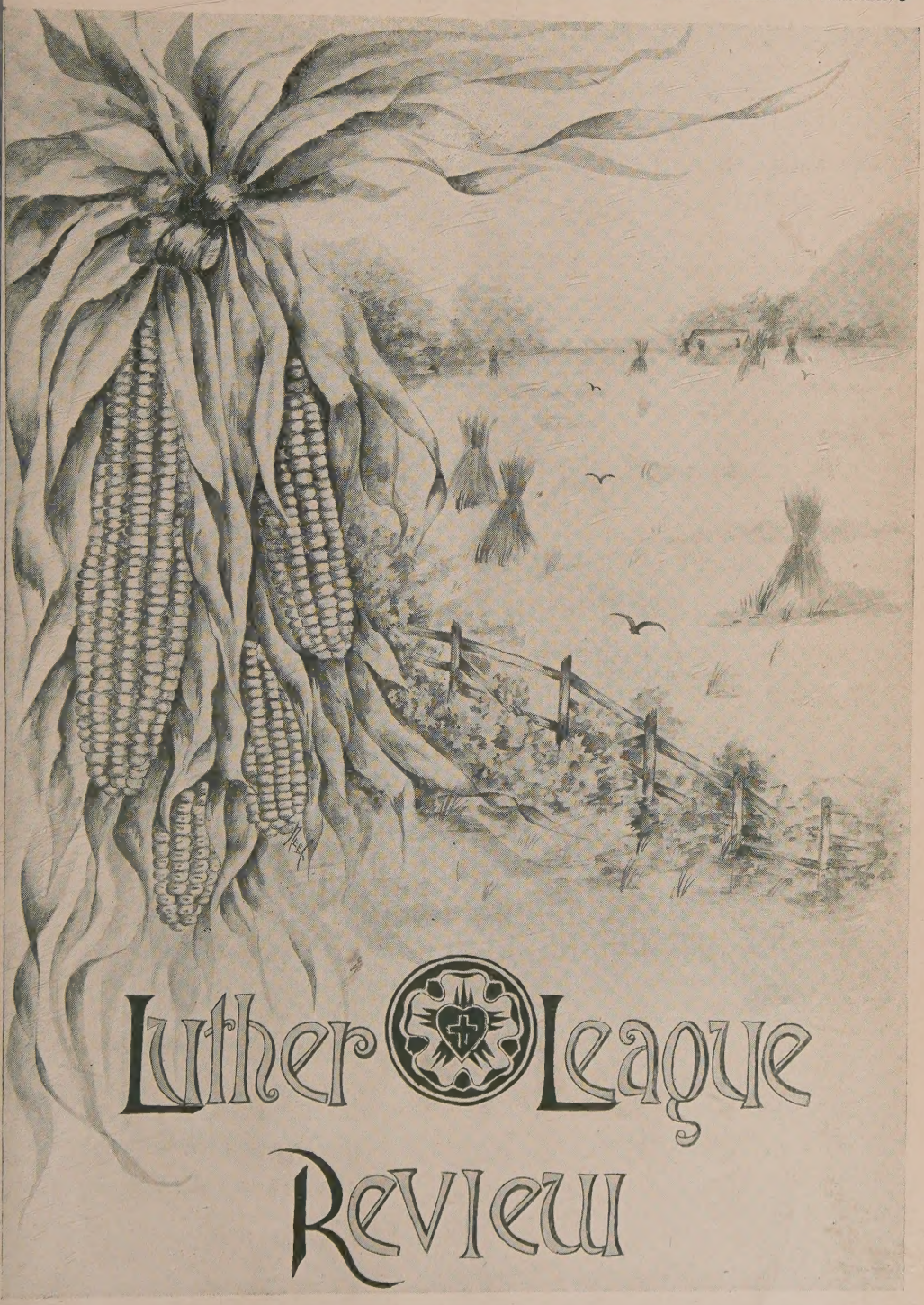

Luther League Review

The Luther League of America

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION of the UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

806 Muhlenberg Building
Philadelphia Pennsylvania

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Senior Department

Our Past A. L. L. History—Harry Hodges...	2 cents
Machinery of the Local League—Harry Hodges	2 cents
Admission Cards	1 cent
Constitution	free
How to Organize a League, and Luther League Goals	free
When the Deaconess Came to St. Paul's—Mrs. E. C. Cronk	5 cents
Queries of the Educational Secretary.....	2 cents
Seven Point Program for the Missionary Secretary	2 cents
Hymns and Prayers, a good song-book for the Luther League, 50c each or 40c in quantity.	
Topic Cards .....25 for 10c	

Intermediate Department

The Intermediate League—Michler.....	5 cents
The Intermediate Merit System—Rev. C. M. Teufel	10 cents
Intermediate Topics for Summer Camps.....	5 cents
How to Organize an Intermediate League—Rev. C. P. Swank.....	2 cents
Intermediate Registration Certificate.....	10 cents
Intermediate Promotion Certificate.....	2 cents
Intermediate Reading Course Certificate.....	2 cents
Girls! What is Your Hobby, and Homecraft for Girls	2 cents
57 Varieties of Meetings for Intermediates....	2 cents
Promotion Exercise from Intermediate to Senior League	2 cents
Camps for Boys—Rev. A. T. Michler.	
Conferences for Boys—Rev. C. P. Swank.	
Topic Cards.....25 for 10c	

Junior Department

(Organization Packet—free)
Constitution for a Junior League
How To Organize a Junior League
Junior Rally Hymn (20c doz.)

(Program Packet—July-Dec. 1926—40c)
Plans for 1926
Our Junior Standard
The Luther League Motto—Exercise
The 1926 Junior Reading Course
Parable of the Sower—Dramatization
Questions and Answers in Genesis—Bible Drill
Emblems of Christmas—Pageant
The Church Year—Pageant
Topic Card

(Packet—Helps for Programs and Rallies—40c)
Luther's Coat of Arms
My Faith Looks Up To Thee—Pantomime
Story of Queen Esther—Dramatization
Like Jesus—Devotional exercise
Here I Stand—Dramatization
Wanted! A Leader!—Exercise
Thanksgiving in the Junior League
Christmas With the Juniors
57 Varieties of Projects for Juniors
(any of these at rate of 40c doz.)

(Packet—Helps for Regular Meetings—40c)
Good Times For Juniors
Bible Dramatizations
A Curio Meeting
A Sand Table Lesson
A Project Meeting
Posters
A Picture Lesson
The Blackboard
Lenten Picture Studies
Bible Torch-Bearers—daily Bible readings
(any of these at rate of 40c doz.)

Luther League Jewelry

For a list of same and prices, make application to the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia.

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Of the Church - By the Church - For the Church

Luther League Review

"WE"

The Pharisee prayed "I thank Thee I am not as other men."

A great Christian, seeing a drunkard reeling in the gutter, said "There go I but for the grace of God."

Jesus realized kinship with all the children of Adam, identified himself with needy, sin-struck humanity and died to save them.

Pray "Our Father."

❖

Say "My Brother."

Are You One With Those You Would Serve?

"WE"

By Karle Wilson Baker

The Lord said,
"Say, 'We'";
But I shook my head,
Hid my hands tight behind my back, and said,
Stubbornly, "I."

The Lord said,
"Say, 'We'";
But I looked upon them grimy and all awry—
Myself in all those twisted shapes? Ah, no!
Distastefully I turned my head away,
Persisting, "They."

The Lord said,
"Say, 'We'";
And I,
At last,
Richer by a hoard
Of years and years,
Looked in their eyes and found the heavy word
That bent my neck and bowed my head;
Like a shamed schoolboy then I mumbled low,
"We, Lord."

—*The Evangelical-Messenger.*

Sustaining Memberships for 1926

THE BIG PUSH!

The Luther League of America has not met the challenge of the Sustaining Membership. Instead of $10,000, or even $8,000 we have received $3,500. That is 35 per cent good (or bad). If you will look over the report below you will see some of the State and Synodical Leagues have done finely. Others have hardly started to get behind the General League.

WE HAVE CONFIDENTLY EXPECTED THE YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH WOULD TAKE THE S. M. SERIOUSLY AND POUR THAT $10,000 INTO OUR TREASURY. THERE ARE TWO MONTHS LEFT WITH 65 PER CENT TO GO. IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE THE AMOUNT BUDGETED WE MUST CUT OUT CERTAIN TRIPS BY OUR SECRETARIES, STOP OUR PLANS FOR LITERATURE WE THINK VITAL TO OUR ORGANIZATION LIFE AND ANOTHER YEAR PLAN DEFINITELY ON SERIOUS RETRENCHMENT.

This is a frank statement. What are YOU going to do about it?

Is your local an S. M. at $5 or more? Have you presented Sustaining Memberships to the pastor, the pastor's wife, the deaconess, the parish-worker, or other faithful friends of your League? Have you gone out to the folks in your congregation who always buy tickets for your plays and make donations to your specials, and asked them to become Sustaining Members of your Luther League? How about your District, Conference, State or Synodical League? We look ahead with confidence for next month's report!

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS TO SEPTEMBER 25, 1926

COLUMBIA DISTRICT—Total 3.
Columbia District Luther League
GEORGIA—Total 2.
Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Atlanta
KANSAS—Total 3.
Kansas State Luther League
MARYLAND SYNOD—Total 23.
The Lutheran Hospice Mission Circle, Baltimore
NEBRASKA—Total 4.
Luther League of Nebraska
NEW YORK—Total 134.
Luther League of Good Shepherd, Brooklyn
Rev. C. D. Trexler
NORTH CAROLINA—Total 22.
Luther League of North Carolina
OHIO—Total 14.
Dorothy Naomi Linsenmayer
Mr. A. T. Baker
SOUTH CAROLINA—Total 11.
Mr. Wm. Brandt
Luther League of South Carolina
TEXAS—Total 3.
Luther League of Trinity Lutheran Church, Victoria
Miss Agnes Miller
Mr. August Meister
VIRGINIA—Total 16.
Luther League of Virginia
WISCONSIN—Total 5.
Senior Luther League of St. Matthew's Church, Wauwatosa.
ILLINOIS—Total 21.
INDIANA—Total 18.
MINNESOTA—Total 13.
PENNSYLVANIA—Total 171.
CONNECTICUT—Total 4.
IOWA—Total 6.
NEW JERSEY—Total 4
TENNESSEE—Total 1.
CALIFORNIA—Total 2.
DELAWARE—Total 1.
PACIFIC NORTHWEST—Total 1.

Life Service Department

"Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

HOW OTHERS ARE PUTTING THE LIFE SERVICE PROGRAM ACROSS.

In South Carolina.

Portions of the annual report of the State Educational Life Service Secretary, Miss Myrtle Davis, will indicate efficiency, results and splendid suggestions as to the possibilities for State Life Service Secretaries. The State League of South Carolina as will be noted gives financial support to students as well as to hold conferences and interviews. A portion of the report follows:

"During the year, three colleges were visited as follows: Summerland (by the Missionary Secretary); Newberry (by the President); Winthrop (personally). Student aid was extended to (here the list was given. These three, who have definite Christian work in view, filed proper applications for said aid. The Southeastern District of the Lutheran Students' Association of America met in Columbia in March and it was my privilege to attend the session of this Conference. From hearsay and from personal observation, I am convinced that our students are becoming more and more concerned about the work of His Kingdom. Let us as a State League continue to help

keep our College students in touch with the work of the League and Church.

In January a letter was sent to the President of each local League asking (1) that a Life Service study class be organized; (2) that Annual Life Service Day be observed on Feb. 28th; (3) that the names of Life Service recruits be sent in, in order that a Life Service flag for the League might be prepared. I deeply appreciate the hearty cooperation of the Board of Education of the U. L. C. A. which at my request sent literature to each League for Life Service Day in February.

Our Educational Life Service work was presented at four District Conferences—Newberry, Richland, Lexington and Saluda. Small Life Service flags were also given to each League at these meetings. Similar flags are being prepared for the Leagues of the other two Districts.

In February it was my privilege to conduct a Life Service study for a joint class of Seniors and Intermediates and also to help personally with another class.

Out of the sixty Leagues reporting at this Convention, we note that 15 Leagues or 25 per cent. of them held Life Service study classes this year. This perhaps sounds small but to me, for the first year, in trying to have a special study class on Life Service, fifteen seems a fair beginning. Let us endeavor to increase the number the coming year. For your Life Service Study class, I suggest these books for your consideration and choice: (1) "Guide Posts to Life Work,"—Fleming. (2) "What Shall I Do with My Life,"—Donnelly. (3) "The Choice of A Career,"—Evans-Brown. (4) "The Call to Prophetic Service,"—Schaeffer. (5) "Christ in High School Life,"—Cliggett. (6) "Christian Standards in Life,"—Murray-Harris. (This one for students' use.)

I am happy to report that 75 per cent. of our Leagues observed Annual Life Service Day. Leaguers, let's have 100 per cent. observing the day in 1927. (All Leaguers know this comes on the last Sunday in February and is observed in cooperation with the Annual Day of Prayer as outlined by the Board of Education of the U. L. C. For pageants, pamphlets, etc., write direct to the B. of E. offices, 212 Evangelical Bldg., Harrisburg, Pa.—Ed.)

Leaguers, as we stand at the dawn of a new League year, let us as never before stir up the gift that is within us and let "no man despise our youth: but let us be an example to them that believe in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith and in purity. And as we have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so let us walk in Him, rooted and builded in Him and established in our faith, even as we have been taught."

A 25 point Honor Roll was adopted at the S. C. Convention. The Life Service points were as follows:

1. A Life Service Secretary in every League.
2. An Annual Life Service program, at which the ministry, the work of the diaconate and the mission field are presented.
3. A Life Service Study class with at least 50 per cent of members enrolled.

Duties of District and Local Life Service Secretaries.

There is a request which comes to us repeatedly from various quarters, inquiring about the duties of State, District and local Life Work Secretaries. For the benefit of new Secretaries who have come upon the scene, it will likely be in place to state that the Life Service Department of the Luther League of America is building up its organization with a responsible chain of Secretaries from the National down to the local League. The National L. S. Secretary has outlined a course of action, and is continually trying to improve upon it, for which the State Secretaries are responsible for the successful carrying out in their own States. There should be a Life Service Secretary for every District within the State. Each local League should have a similar Secretary. The State Secretary carries out the National program in his own State by working through and with the District Secretaries, who in turn work through and with the local L. S. Secretaries. In this manner there will be coordinated efforts and since we are all only part-time Secretaries, the work will not approach the impossible for any of us.

Below we give an outline of duties as submitted to us by Mr. A. R. Polke, who is Vice-President and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State League and Life Service Secretary of the Philadelphia District. He is kind enough to suggest that most of these suggestions have appeared in the REVIEW.

Duties of District L. S. Secretaries.

1. The District L. S. Secretary should see first of all that the local L. S. program of the L. L. of America is properly carried out. The best plan to follow in doing this is to correspond with the Leagues and follow up correspondence by personal visitations.
2. Where advisable divide District into sections and form Life Service Study Classes consisting of the members of two or more local Leagues.
3. Conduct classes for the instruction of Life Service Secretaries and prospective teachers of Life Service Study Classes.
4. Conduct District Life Service Rallies.
5. Conduct Life Service Institutes and Camp Conferences.

6. Stress the importance of observing Life Decision Day.

7. Procure names and addresses of young people of the Lutheran Church in the District who are going to High School and are contemplating going to college and also names of those who are attending college at present (naming the college) and send then to the State Life Service Secretary, who in turn forwards them to the L. L. Headquarters at Philadelphia, where they are classified and followed up.

8. Have large Christian Flag on display at convention, etc., with gold, silver, and blue stars thereon (as indicated in No. 7 under Duties of Local L. S. Secretaries), for District Honor Members.

9. See that the Summer School in conference has a class in Life Service work and keep members of the District advised regarding it, urging them to attend.

10. Continually stress the importance of daily Bible reading, meditation and prayer.

11. Keep in touch with the activities and suggestions of the Life Service Department of the Luther League of America by the reading of them in the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW.

12. Keep local Leagues advised regarding all the available Life Service literature.

Duties of the Local Life Service Secretary.

1. Organize Life Service Study class, with program so arranged that the study of all or a definite part of the Life Service text book will be completed immediately preceding Life Decision Day. Have special inspirational Life Decision Day service the last Sunday in February.

2. Where it is not possible, due to local conditions, to start Life Service Classes at once, keep Life Service thoughts before the Leagues by connecting them with the topics at the devotional meetings.

3. Keep the Life Service thought before the League by making use of our Life Service Literature, presenting one of the pageants, "The Reply of Youth," "The Quest," and others.

4. Send to District Life Service Secretary the names and addresses of members of the League, Sunday School and Church, who are going to High School and contemplate going to college and also the names of those who are going to college at the present (naming the college). This cooperation will enable our church to keep in touch with our young people.

5. Have League arrange special service at the proper time of the year for those members of the congregation who are returning to college.

6. Have a banquet for the young people of the community who are planning to go to college and have a representative of our nearest Lutheran College present to speak on the subject, "Life work and the College."

7. Hang a Life Service Christian Flag in the room where the League meets.

(a) Place a gold star on it for each member who is studying for the ministry.

(b) Place a silver star on it for each member who is preparing for the Diaconate.

(c) Place a blue star on it for each member who is preparing for some other form of life work.

Stars may be placed outside the blue field while members are preparing for life work, then moved inside the blue field when they are in active service.

8. Cooperate with the pastor in work of personal evangelism.

9. Present Life Service Shield to Congregation, unveiling it at a special church service. (Write to the Board of Education offices, 212 Evangelical Bldg., Harrisburg, Pa., for full particulars concerning this shield.) Or at least display one in the room where the League meets.

10. Keep reminding members of the League of the importance of daily Bible reading, the benefit received through daily meditation and the value of prayer.

11. Keep in touch with the activities of the Life Service Department of the Luther League of America by reading of them in the Life Service Department of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, also read all available Life Service literature suggested in this Department.

Missionary Department

"Come" and "Go"

THE WINNER

A young college professor from Indiana, an English teacher from Illinois, a business man from Florida, and a missionary worker from Virginia constituted the committee which selected the prize story in the Story Contest. The story which has been selected received the first vote of every member of the committee.

Miss Ruth Nease, a member of the Luther League of Damascus, Virginia, is the prize winner.

The envelope containing the winner's name was not opened until all had voted.

The stories which were submitted are proof that there is much talent among our young people. Some of them will appear in later issues. All of them are worth reading and the loyal Leaguers who entered the competition may be assured that they gave the judges a difficult task.

PRIZE MISSIONARY STORY

"SUBMITTED BY MARCIA MARQUE."

RUTH NEASE

One day Mr. and Mrs. Norton were out driving on the seldom traveled "Indian Trail." This trail was not often traveled, as it went to no particular destination. It was also narrow, only broad enough for one car to glide down the trail. The brush had grown up beside the road and no one had patience to cut it down, nor did they think it worth while to hire it cut down. It was the fall of the year, during the latter part of August. The weeds were beginning to look dried up because of a scarcity of rain.

Although the ride was taken mainly for pleasure, the Nortons also desired to get some bittersweet. They knew of a certain place where they had gotten it before, several miles from Baxley. Soon they came to this particular spot.

Mr. Norton stepped out of the car rather stiffly, and why not; hadn't he been sitting in his office the greater part of the day? He was not what you call old, nor young, but middle age. If you would have looked in the Family Bible, undoubtedly you would have found his age. However, although it may not be exact, he was around the forty mark. His hair was still black but he did not, like other young men, use "Sta-Comb" to keep his every hair in place. His face was smooth and scarcely wrinkled, even around his broad and high forehead. His steel gray eyes were fixed passionately on his wife as though they were only sweethearts of former and older days. He raised his hand and helped her to alight from the car. If anyone had seen her alight, from the car, her soft, white hand resting in her husband's so lightly, they would have said she had fairly jumped instead of stepping from the car. She wore a long gray coat which she removed after getting out of the car. Also her gray felt hat. The wind, which was blowing slightly, ruffled her dark brown hair. Her cheeks were red and rosy from the ride.

Mrs. Norton turned and looked up at her husband smiling. "Well we're here, aren't we? It surely was a cool and pleasant drive. Now get your pruning shears and come on. We must get back pretty soon for the party at the Charles."

"Well, you know Mary, I am not crazy about getting back in time for that affair."

"Now, Harry, don't say that. You also know *I'm* going just to be polite. I don't care for theatre parties anyway. I think we should go just because we have refused so many times, and besides I told her we would be sure to come unless something unforeseen took place."

Mr. Norton started to cut some branches off. Mrs. Norton walked along the road, surveying the woods on the other side of the fence but soon turned around. Just then she heard a strange peculiar noise that at first startled her. She called to her husband but he had also heard it.

He hurried across to her side. Together they sought the cause of it. They had to climb the fence and soon were in the wooded area. Again they heard the noise, this time plainer and more distinct. Soon as they stumbled on, they came to a spot where there was evidence of a camp, but the ashes where a fire was once built were cold. Here they paused and from the distance, though closer, and nearer at hand, they heard the noise. It was getting darker among the trees as they again advanced. Suddenly, as if from nowhere they saw an old tumbled-down cabin. Mr. and Mrs. Norton stopped. They could see where trees had been chopped down. Mr. Norton led his wife over to one of the fallen logs and told her she could sit there and save her strength as she might need it. He left her there and then went to the door and knocked, but there was no response, save a hollow, heart-rending cry. Mr. Norton turned the knob of the door and found it locked. He walked around the cabin and finally tried a window, which to his surprise went up rather easily. He raised it as high as possible and then looked in. As he did so a sharp stone nicked his cheek. He drew back just in time to miss another one.

After a moment's thought he called out, "Who is in there? I will not harm you, I will help you if possible."

He waited and then heard a groan.

Again he called out, "Can I not help you?"

This time he peeped into the cabin. It was very dark and he could see nothing, but he could hear the shuffling of feet. He decided to try the door again. As he turned from the window he was startled to hear a weak voice say, "Come around to the door."

Mrs. Norton arose and came to her husband. It was evident she had heard nothing.

"Is anyone there?" she asked.

"There seems to be someone in there but I can't find out who. They told me to go to the door. Now, Mary, you go back where you were and don't get excited."

(*Continued.*)

Rev. A. J. Traver, Editor, Philadelphia, Pa. Send all articles, communications and news items to 806 Muhlenberg Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE
ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE
Luther League of America
IN THE INTERESTS OF
The United Lutheran Church and Her Young People

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Entered at the New York Post Office as Second Class Matter.

A LIFE SERVICE BOOK

Dr. S. G. Trexler, president of the New York and New England Synod, has made a contribution to American Lutheran History in "A Crusader in the Twentieth Century." There is sufficient of an autobiographical nature to make the book very interesting. The young man who reads this conquest story of the Lutheran Church will find a new appreciation of the ministry and may hear the call to enlistment. This office will gladly handle orders.

A STUDENT CONFERENCE

In Madison, Wisconsin, this coming January there will be a great gathering of Lutheran students. It would be a fine contribution to make to the student work of our Church if Luther Leagues would aid in sending some of their college students. Students pocket-books are lean. (Something like the pocket-book of the L. L. of A.) This would be a splendid form in which to give student Luther Leaguers a Christmas present.

CUTS

Most of the cuts used to illustrate Convention Reports are of no further service to us. If editors of State and Synodical Bulletins would like to use them they may be loaned for the postage or bought at a nominal sum.

PRINTING NOVELTIES

You will find a new advertisement in this issue of the Luther Press. This is a new establishment in which a good Luther Leaguer is interested. He has been putting out many printing novelties that are real aids to Luther League work for instance, there is the "Bible Reading Meal Ticket" a little yellow card with the days of the month numbered on the edge and in the style of a meal ticket. Each day as the member reads the Bible he checks opposite that day and at the end of the month this will offer in an interesting way to check up on the members.

There are also book-marks, cards for absentees, and many other splendid ideas put into printing form, by an *A1* printer.

We have no financial interest in the adventure, but we have a league interest, due to the fact that the Luther Press will give valuable aid to League work that we could not provide.

Try out the Luther Press.

LUTHER'S BIRTHDAY

November 10th should not pass by in Luther League circles without the retelling of the Luther story. No great movements in the life of the world have come apart from great personalities. Many otherwise promising reforms have utterly failed because of the lack of *the man.* Many reformers have been so stern, so other-worldly, that the result of their life work has been cold and cruel. Our Luther was kindly, gentle, jolly yet heroically persistent. He humanized religion. He was of the common people and he found a religion that they could understand. A study of Luther will deepen our appreciation of God's providence in raising up *just the man for the world's need!*

"THE BONDS"

As Harry Hodges would say, "Life Sentences!" We surely do take an interest in our Luther League weddings, for we have discovered Luther League weddings are happy weddings. A community of interest is one essential to happy married life. Interest centered in the youth organization of the Church doubly insures the outcome. League work and in fact all Church work is essentially unselfish. Selfishness is the rock on which most wrecked homes find their doom. The young folks who are followers of the Master and who share the willingness to serve Him will not have time for petty quarrels. But we are taking to editorial rambles. We started out to offer best of good wishes to the following newlyweds: President Schuelke of Connecticut, Miss Margaret Tannleer who as secretary to Mr. John Greiner has rendered heroic service to the S. M. and other League interests, President Luther Lang of the North East District of Pa., and Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Christman, President and Secretary of Trinity League, Reading, Pa.

JUST TO BE SURE

Electrician (from top of building from which four wires dangled): "Jim, catch hold of two of those wires, will you?"

Jim: "All right!"

Electrician: "Feel anything?"

Jim: "No."

Electrician: "Well, don't touch the other two; there's 2,000 volts in them."

Why Worry? Ask!

ASK UNCLE AMOS

Rev. Professor Frank Wolford at the Hartwick Summer Assembly gave a splendid course of lectures on the Old Testament Prophets. Amos, he characterized as the literary prophet. Miss Mehlhouse says that is why Uncle Amos was chosen to edit the REVIEW. Uncle Amos has often wondered.

Send in your questions. This department feeds on questions just as the hungry boy on the product of the cooky-jar. Send 'em in!

What reading course should we use this fall?

It is rather late to ask you to invest in the 1926 Course if you haven't started it, so I should advise buying the 1927 Course. You will find the books listed in the Educational Department.

Why doesn't the Lutheran Church have more influence in making laws and enforcing them? It seems to me that the Lutheran Church is pussyfooting the whole prohibition question.

The dangers of interference in law making and law enforcing by a Church as an organization are so great that our method of education and inspiration is much to be preferred. There are plenty of civic organizations through which the Christian can and should work to gain his ends. The Roman Church and some of the Protestant Churches have mixed into politics, maintained lobbyists, used their pulpits to influence votes for this measure or that or this candidate or that and we are well out of that sort of thing. However, we are not to use this preference for spiritual methods in influencing life, as an alibi for doing nothing. If as a Church we can not tell people how to vote we can tell them to vote. If we do not venture to advocate parties, we can proclaim principles that will help our people to know what they ought to do. I want to point out in conclusion, the League's opportunity in the study of social and civic questions. Discussion groups that take up the problems of your community will help to raise a generation of better informed Christian citizens.

Why don't you prepare a set program for Senior Devotionals?

We would like a program that could be carried out from the beginning to the end of the meeting, including hymns, psalm, etc.

In exceptional cases this would be an advantage. I fear that this will not develop initiative on the part of the leader. I have been preparing material and giving suggestions to leaders in order to aid in setting up the program. I believe it will be better for the Leaguers to do the actual "setting up" themselves. Certainly senior Leaguers with the help of a devotional chairman can pick out hymns and arrange the order of service. With the REVIEW, *Topics* and *The Lutheran* far more material is provided than can be used. It is worth a great deal to have the Leader make the selection. I would be glad to hear from our workers about this question.

Why is not the Luther League represented at all Synods?

It is, unless some one falls down on his job. Every Board of the Church does not send a representative to every Synod. There are several reasons, one the expense, another the crowded programs of Synods with too little time to hear all the Secretaries. We have an association of secretaries and we are assigned to certain Synods. When we speak at these Synods we are expected to plead for one, two or three causes in addition to our own. So if all the Secretaries are on the job you will find the Luther League represented at every Synod.

When are the exact dates of the National Convention?

Never! I understand the difficulty in finding a word to describe the Conventions of the Luther League of America and the general officers. Perhaps the word general is the best word for the case. The Luther League of America meets in Salisbury, July 2-5, 1927. It is not national but international and perhaps some one will help us to say it?

Some Leagues are State and others are Synodical. How do they get that way?

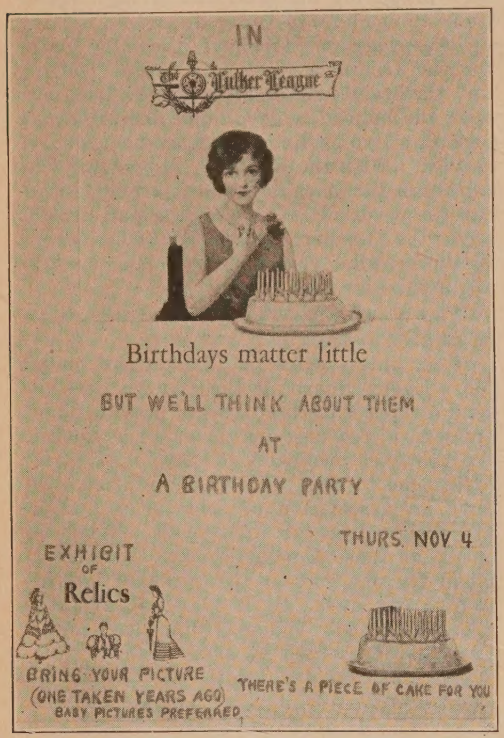
The L. L. of A. was founded as a Lutheran young folk's organization without reference to Synods. There were no Synodical Leagues under that system but all were established geographically. When the L. L. of A. was adopted by the U. L. C. the principle of Synodical organization was adopted for the League. But in States like Pennsylvania and New York there are Churches belonging to different Synods. Until these Synods merge it was decided to permit the State Organization to continue. In fact these organizations are a big help in preparing the way for mergers of Synods.

Ought a girl to be president of a League?

I SHOULD SAY SO, IF SHE IS FITTED FOR THE OFFICE AND HER LEAGUE WANTS HER.

One Social a Month

NOVEMBER
Birthday Party



INVITATION—Birthday Party, Thursday, Nov. 4, 8 P.M.

Whose? Why, yours, of course.

Bring your own birthday present, worth not more than ten cents.

Bring an old picture of yourself, baby picture preferred. Give it to Miss —— on or before the meeting. Let no one else see it.

Birthday Cake? Sure!

Cordially,
The Social Secretary.

GAMES—*Guess the Months*—Have a display board, with one object on it for each month—for instance, a calendar for January, a heart for February, a "little bit of green" for March, etc. See who can first write down the months in order, with the proper object belonging to them.

Pot of Gold—Prize jar of candy hidden in room. Every one hunt for it. As soon as they see it, they sit down, but tell no one where it is. First one to sit down receives the jar of candy, last one receives some nonsensical booby prize.

Jumble Story—Type a story from some magazine, cut it in as many parts as you expect people. Let the crowd try to assemble the story in its proper sequence, then have it read.

Divided Quotations—Take familiar quotations, preferably poetry, divide them, keeping the first part for the boys, the second part for the girls. Let them find partners in this way.

The Birthday Dolls—As soon as everyone has their partner, give each couple a clothespin, have several boxes of scraps of crepe paper, scissors, pins and paste around the room. The boys must dress the dolls. The girls may make suggestions to their partners, but they must not touch the dolls. Prize for best dressed dolls.

Picture Gallery—Baby Show—Have the pictures which were brought displayed. Let everyone see how many they can guess. (Pictures may be returned to owners after the meeting.)

REFRESHMENTS—Birthday cake and ice-cream—and have real birthday cake if possible, witn candles on it. It does not matter how many candles you use, possibly as many as the years your League has been in existence. At the table, have one of the Birthday Presents, which have previously been collected, at each place. All open the packages at the same time.

General Secretary's Letter

DEAR FAMILY:

This month I have little to tell about in the way of "trips." I have decidedly not been "vacating." My date book is filled to a disconcerting fullness for October. September has been a real office month and I have not had to leave my happy home for any long treks. October offers the meeting of my own Synod, the United Lutheran Church, and the Connecticut and Georgia

Leagues so there is not much room left for anything else. By the time you read this letter the socalled summer slump will be all over. Of course that affects the city congregation more than the rural Church.

Our reading course you will find in the Educational Department. It is a great course, interesting and inspiring. It is intended for 1927 but the time to plan for 1927 is right now. Why not plan to have those books read by every member of your League?

It seems to me that every Leaguer would be a better Leaguer and a better informed Lutheran if the reading of *The Lutheran* was a weekly habit. I am taking for granted that you have a REVIEW in every home in your League. You should have *The Lutheran* in every home, too.

The Salisbury Convention is going to mark a new standard in League Conventions. Definite plans for attendance are being made from coast to coast. Some one suggested that local banks would gladly arrange a saving plan something like a Christmas Club for your League. It would be a good thrift lesson for your young folks and would help provide the necessary cash. I would be glad to hear how your League is preparing for representation at Salisbury.

Thanksgiving Day is swiftly coming. Just what do you make of it? A civic celebration or religious festival, a holiday or a holy day? Is the big thing in your minds football and turkey or the lifting of hearts to God in appreciation of His blessings? There is room for football and turkey in a Thanksgiving Day that does not lose its religious significance.

Of course you have read the S. M. appeal at the very front of this REVIEW. If just one member of your League would take this fund seriously and go after those "fivers," my worries would be at an end. It is an easy way to meet appeals by thinking of things the other fellow should do. I am sure you all mean well toward the L. L. of A. The problem now is to translate those good intentions into Sustaining Memberships.

Can you think "little" as well as "big?" It is an art in these days when newspaper, radio and a thousand other developments in modern life lead folks to think "big." This is true in the Church. We think of the "big" U. L. C. and of the "big" L. L. of A. In one of Hogarth's cartoons a man is sitting in the cell of an English debtor's prison figuring out how to pay the national debt. His trouble was "thinking big." He thought so big that he did not have time or energy for his own little financial problem. One of your main concerns is the building of a live local League. You can do this without neglecting the "big" State and Synodical Leagues. You have heard of "Convention" Leaguers, showy at Conventions but never "there" when there is work to do in the local.

Aim high, at ideal membership. Meet the demands of far and near, home and abroad. Seek to find Jesus' way for your life and when you have found it, be brave enough to follow through.

Faithfully yours,

Amos John Traver

Educational Department

THE BOOK OF THE NATIONS!

"The Bible has been translated into six hundred languages. It is more read in China than Confucius, more read in India than the Vedas, more read in Italy than Vergil and more read in Greece than Homer."

The one translation that requires *your* aid is the translation into *life*. The *Gospel according to you* is *the only Gospel man will ever read.* How is the print, clear and certain? How is the paper, strong and white? How is the binding, firm and attractive? Think this over!

Do you know that 88 *per cent of the Leaguers in Washington, D. C., read their Bibles daily?* No wonder that unit of the L. L. of A. has been growing so rapidly!

Is your League in the dumps? Try a campaign for *Daily Bible Reading!*

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NOVEMBER DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Nov. 1—Josiah, 2nd Chronicles, 34:1-7.
" 2—Ezra, Ezra 9:5-15; Nehemiah 8:2,3.
" 3—Moses, Exodus, 3:11; 4:1-17.
" 4—Hezekiah, 2nd Kings 18:1-8.
" 5—John The Baptist, Luke 3:7-14.
" 6—Jesus, Matthew 5:43-48.
" 7—Matt. 7:12; Isaiah 2:1-4.
" 8—Romans 12:9-21 contains a thorough program for promoting peace.
" 9—Eph. 4:32-35 is another similar program.
" 10—Col. 3:12-17 if followed faithfully would bring peace.
" 11—Jas. 4:1-10 shows the causes of war and how they may be stopped.
" 12—I Peter 3:8-18 shows that humility and zeal for God and willingness to suffer for Christ will bring peace.

Nov. 13—Matt. 5:38-48 Christ's prescription for peace.
" 14—Luke 10:1-20 The workman is worthy of his hire.
" 15—Acts 6:1-7 The minister should not be entangled in business.
" 16—1 Cor. 9:1-14 The Church should provide for the minister.
" 17—Numbers 8:25-32 This provision should be unending.
" 18—1 John 3:14-24 It is unchristian to neglect this duty.
" 19—1 Cor. 16:1-2 The rule for giving.
" 20—Mal. 3:7-12 The blessing of providing for all God's work with liberality.
" 21—Psalm 116:12-19; Luke 17:11-19.
" 22—We Praise God in psalms, hymns, etc., Eph. 5:19-20.
" 23—We Praise God by speaking of His wonderful works in nature, Psalm 149.
" 24—We Praise God by telling what He does for men, Psalm 146.
" 25—We Praise God by extolling His Glorious majesty, Psalm 145.
" 26—We Praise God by recounting His personal dealings of grace, Psalm 30.
" 27—We Praise God by singing of His great deliverance, Psalm 98.
" 28—John 4:19-26.
" 29—Worship God only, Exodus 20:2-7.
" 30—In adoration, Psalm 95:6-10.

The Topics Booklet

Do not forget that splendid additional help is provided for leaders of devotional meetings in the *Luther League Topics*. Many Leagues subscribe for enough copies to give to every member. For $3.75 twenty-five copies will be sent for a whole year. Rev. C. P. Harry, one of the Secretaries of the Board of Education, provides most of the material. Miss Scherer our General Missionary Secretary prepares the missionary topic and Rev. S. F. Fedders, Milwaukee, gathers the quotations.

The Senior Reading Course for 1927

The Choice of a Career, by Evans and Brown,
Facts of Our Faith, by Hunton,
Baron Stiegel, by Stine,
Forces in Foreign Missions, by Drach,
Young Islam on Trek, by Mathews,
The Christ of the Indian Road, by Jones.

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December 5, 1926

Second Sunday in Advent

CHARACTER, HOW TO FORM IT? WHAT AFFECTS IT

Prov. 22:1, 8:1-11; 1 Cor. 15:33

To leaders: Discussion questions: 1. Do you believe Proverbs 22:1? Do you think it is necessary to choose between riches and reputation? 2. How about Proverbs 8:10, 11? Would the world be better off if this advice were accepted? 3. Should we avoid evil companionship? How about Jesus as "Friend of sinners?" What rule should we follow in seeking companions? 4. Mazzini, hearing a man described as "good" asked "Whom did he save?" Is that a fair test of character? 5. Stevenson said "Jesus taught, not a code of rules but a loving spirit, not truth but the spirit of truth, not views but a view." Was Stevenson right? Must we throw aside rules like the Ten Commandments? Debate: Resolved that conscience is the only necessary guide for conduct.

Topic

Some one has said "Character is what you are in the dark." What you are, *not* what you do. A great many influences work to make "What you do," different from "What you are." We must also admit that "What you do" has some power to change "What you are." But Jesus rightly put the emphasis the other way and said that "Out of the heart, are the issues of life." The inner life holds the motives for our deeds. A man who is honest at heart will always be honest in deeds. Some men are honest because they fear the opinion of their neighbors, or because they are never really tempted to be otherwise. The man "in the dark" is the naked soul before God, the real self. This is character.

How is this character formed? We suggest three influences.

What Will I Think?

A vast deal depends on our own opinions of ourselves. To think right about right and wrong, to be able to face the mirror of our own ideals without shame, this is a worthy goal. It must not come to pride and self-satisfaction. There is possible danger here. We avoid the unlovely self-righteousness of the prude. But we know the constant battle within our own hearts between good and bad. No one else in the human family can understand our battle. Now to come out of that battle with nothing to hide, no skeleton in the cupboard! This is the character that stands the test of time. This should be the ideal of youth. Ruskin tells of finding hidden in the roof of a cathedral a beautifully carved stone. Someone used his art on a hidden stone. So whatever the world may see there should be a cherished inner life that is the best we are able to build. "Thou shalt not get found out" is no command for the building of character. There is something fine within the heart of the man, who like the father of Jane Addams deserved this tribute: "There have been many members of the Illinois Legislature who never accepted a bribe, but only one never was offered one." The ideal for the inner life is Jesus.

What Will They Think?

"Mother's apron strings" have kept many a boy and girl out of mischief. The opinions of others have a great deal to do with the forming of character. It is testing time for the school boy and girl away from home for the first time. This will tell whether they have been thinking right or not, or have just been good because they did not dare challenge public opinion. How many young married folks move into a new community where they are not well known and

drop the habit of Church attendance. The largest peril of a big city for the country youth is that no one knows and no one cares. If we are influenced by what "they" think then how very important to find the crowd for companionship with the highest standards.

WHAT WILL HE THINK?

The strongest force in the formation of character is religion. To really believe that God is, must lead us to try to please Him. To really believe that He loved us and died for us is the highest possible reason for trying to think and speak and act as he would approve. Our own thinking may go wrong, and probably will. His never. Our companions, our community and even our parents may not think right on questions important to our inner life. His friendship never betrays us.

Plato pictures two horses, one pulling up, the other down, one noble and the other ignoble. This is the contest within our soul. Human nature still fights the battle, the losing battle. The great philosopher continues by showing how the driver keeps a straight path by looking on "that colorless, formless, intangible essence, which is the only lord of the soul." Small comfort that, but the best he had to offer. We know of One who ever liveth. His face is ever before us and looking we shall find strength. His presence in our lives is the presence of the best of all friends. His companionship realized in life will do for us what it did for doubting Thomas and hasty Peter.

Let us learn to think right by the hard training of constant exercise. Let us seek companionship that builds sturdy character by its very presence. Most of all let us find Jesus in daily life and make the inner room of our souls fit for His dwelling place.

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December 12, 1926

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

"THE CHILDREN OF OUR COMMUNITY. WHAT SHALL WE DO FOR THEM?"

Luke 18:15-17; Matt. 25:40

Mrs A. J. Traver

Who should lead this meeting? If there is a Junior society in your church, why not ask the one in charge to lead? If your church has no Junior Luther League, discuss its organization and your responsibility to train the Juniors for leadership in the future Senior League.

Assign questions at least two weeks in advance and check up to be sure assignments are being prepared.

I. Find out what is being done for the children of your local church.

Discussion:

1. Is it an adequate program?
2. Are they being entertained? or
3. Are they being developed?
4. What is the responsibility of the Senior Luther League?

II. Find out what is being done for the children of the community who are not reached by any church.

Discussion:

1. What methods may be used to attract them to your church?

III. What do children like best? (Ask the children themselves.) The probable answers will be:

1. Movies.

Would your local movie director welcome a plan to show pictures chosen by a committee of your League?

Even in a large city, this usually can be accomplished. It is good advertising to be recommended by a church group.

2. Athletics.

How about a Boy or Girl Scout Troop or a Camp Fire Group? They teach a well-rounded life.

Is any one in your League trained to direct recreational activities?

3. Fun.

Are children welcome at your socials? Why not plan one for them? They would love a hike and hot dog roast.

Other questions for discussion are merely suggested.

IV. Should one work with children for the love of children? Can one be a successful worker with children who does not love children? Do we consider them nuisances? Or do we work with children for the love of Christ? Do we consider them as Jesus did in Luke 18:15-17? What does it mean to forbid them? Do we "forbid them" when we do nothing for them?

V. How closely should the Luther League work with the Sunday School? Take a census. How many Luther Leaguers are teaching or helping otherwise in the local Sunday School or week day religious school of your church?

A Luther League desires to present to the Sunday School a picture. Suggest what pictures would be appropriate. Take a straw vote. If possible get Perry Pictures to show and ask for a selection from five or more offered for approval which carries the best message.

A Luther League offers a prize to the child in Sunday School who can write the best essay on How to Use the Bible. Should the prize be $5 in gold or a Bible? Suggest some other contests for which rewards could be given. These contests show the children that the Luther League is interested in them.

The Junior League Reading Course should be in every Sunday School library. Couldn't your League assume that responsibility?

Gladys York had volunteered to go to Japan as teacher in the new girls' school. Her family physician advised against it and her parents refused their consent. Her pastor wants her to help in a Mission Sunday School but she feels only the call to teach foreign children in a foreign land. Do you think that is better missionary work than to teach foreign children here in America?

Is it missionary work to teach American children in our Bible schools?

Does it matter that the children of our church and community are kept straight? If it does—shouldn't we do our bit? How can we know what to do? Will prayer help? How should we pray?

"Dear Father, help us to know Thy will and show us the way—for the sake of Jesus, the Friend of children." Amen.

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December 19, 1926

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

HOW CAN WE EXPRESS THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT?

2 Cor. 8:9, 9:6-15

To Leaders: The celebration of Christmas has gone down to pagan levels in recent years. This topic offers splendid opportunity for correcting some of our usual Christmas faults. Discussion: 1, Ought we ever to give a gift to some one simply because we know a gift is coming to us? 2, What can our League do for the poor this Christmas? (Let three Leaguers answer this.) 3, What could our League do to make this a happy Christmas for our pastor? 4, What about the commercializing of Christmas these days? Is it a good thing? 5, Do simple or elaborate gifts best show the Christmas spirit?

Debate: Resolve that the practice of giving Christmas gifts to individuals should be abolished.

TOPIC

We will not try to answer the question of the topic with any completeness. We would have to speak of the Advent and Christmas services in our Church. We would need to think of many avenues of service. We could spend several meeting hours and still but touch the edges of the topic. Instead we will go to the scripture passages and find one word and three phrases that may help up improve our Christmas this year.

The word is *grace*. Grace means gift. You expect no pay for a gift. When you go to the store and *give* the salesman money and he *gives* you goods, neither transaction was a *gift*. There was no grace, it was just business. Of course considering the prices we have to pay the stores we may think at times that we are presenting them with a gift. Seriously, our illustration is one that we need to consider as we purchase gifts for our friends this Christmas. Do we ever give because we know others are giving to us? Do we ever say "cheapskate" or something much more polite but just as full of meaning when we receive a present that cost little from a friend to whom we have given a present that represented sacrifice? There is no *grace* in a trade and the more we take the spirit of trade out of our Christmas giving, the better the Christmas spirit.

The birth of Jesus was a real *gift*. We can never pay for Him. He is the pearl without price. All he asks in return is love.

"Purposed in the Heart." The clerk in the busy department store sees the insincerities of Christmas giving. How can we be so hypocritical in our giving? "The gift without the giver is bare." The well educated young woman who had been compelled to give up a career to care for a blind father went to her pastor distressed that she could do so little with her education. When he spoke of her care for her father as the finest sort of an investment of life, she answered, "Oh, that is nothing. Why, I love him." The burden of Christmas buying would be gone did we give only where we really wanted to give.

Remember that Christmas giving is in honor of Christ. Doesn't this shame our Christmas lists?

"Not Grudgingly or of Necessity." "I just have to give to so and so." What a shame to "have to give" where we do not *want* to give. Suppose the apostles were making up their Christmas lists in honor of their master's birthday. There would have been one "grudging" giver. He showed his mental twist when he complained about the broken alabaster box of ointment. But the rest of the twelve, making out their giving lists in the presence of Jesus, could one dream that a single name would be included, *grudgingly or of necessity?*

Jesus Still Lives. He looks over your shoulder as you prepare your gifts. It will not be the value of the gift in money that He will count. It will be the spirit in your heart. Remember "God loveth a cheerful giver."

"Giveth to the Poor—Supplieth Seed." Many Church Schools have given up the old-fashioned method of giving all the children books and toys on Christmas. Instead they have a "White Christmas." The children bring gifts to the Church for the poor. Surely the Lord rejoices in this sort of honor to His birthday. Thousands of baskets are given for Christmas dinners and if given wisely, what a fine tribute to Christ. The Church should not let organizations that give without the spirit of Christ, steal her golden opportunity to glorify the Christ.

Notice that *"supplieth seed"* is another interpretation of this oportunity for poor relief. Unwise charity damns its unfortunate "cases" to pauperism. To help the sower to help himself accomplishes a double purpose. Jesus always saved men's bodies that he might save their souls. This aim surely must underlie all Christmas giving. The trained workers in our Inner Mis-

sion Societies will gladly help your League find a place to express the Christmas spirit in *giving to the poor.*

May we find in these simple suggestions a way to make this coming Christmas a celebration worthy of our Lord.

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December 26, 1926

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH AND THE IMMIGRANT

Rev. J. Elmer Bittle,
President Immigrants' Mission Board

Lev. 19:34; Matt. 25:35; Malachi 3:5; Heb. 13:2

In our study this week we shall include all the work which is being done for and with the Immigrant by our beloved church.

The Lutheran church has a large responsibility for the spiritual culture of the Slovak people in this country. There are in America 618,866 Slovaks and their religious affiliations are 75 per cent Catholic. The 25 per cent are originally Lutheran when they come to us. We should have 154,716 Slovak Lutherans in our group. But we find that other denominations have established missions for these people and today whilst our Lutheran church has 21 churches and 61 preaching points with 5413 members, there are only 6328 members reported in all.

We must however remember that they report only the head of the family as a member and we probably should include about 25,000 as members of the church. This would leave us more than 100,000 who are not churched from those who are baptized and confirmed Lutherans in America.

In the "coke fields" of Western Pennsylvania where there are many of this group, the Methodist Episcopal Church has planted a training school for workers among these people. The Lutheran Church has but two small churches in this large area, both of which are Independent Churches and not identified with any Synod.

During the past year our church has entered the field in New York City. There are in this City at least 20.000 and the Slovak church there has made but a very faint attempt to care for the spiritual needs of the group. Rev. L. Sanjek is supported by our Immigrant Mission Board and is ministering to a large constituency who frankly have told him "that they have lost all faith in the Church." But when he comes as a messenger of Christ through the Lutheran Church and ministers to them in temporal and spiritual things they are brought back to their faith. The Slovak people are very religious and delight in worship.

The Magyars (Hungarians). There are in this country 473.538 who are classed in this group. The Lutheran church should have about six per cent of these or about 28,000 souls. According to the best statistics we have six churches and two preaching points with 546 churches. We have churches in Chicago, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Cleveland of the larger cities. Yet we have only about one-tenth of the Lutheran Magyars in this country in our churches.

About one year ago a missionary was sent to Pittsburgh to look up the Magyar Lutherans. He found a people eager for a church and as one of them expressed it with tears falling over his cheeks, "I have waited twenty-five years for my church to come and I am so happy today." Within a year a congregation was organized with 71 members, a church property purchased and the work is in splendid condition for advancement. In another place we found 75 Hungarian families nearly all of which are Lutheran with no Lutheran church either English or Hungarian. The young people are attending the Sunday School of other Protestant churches. Fine young men and women whom we are losing to our Church.

The Latvians (Letts) in this country are not so numerous only about 47,000 of them in our country but the Letts in the old country are 98 per cent of the Lutheran faith. We have three missions to these people in the country. Seven in all for the entire country with only 183 members reported. If we again count these as heads of families it would be less than 1000 as being in the churches.

Lithuanians. The Lutheran Church does not have a great responsibility here. Most of this group belong to the Roman Catholic Church.

Esthonians. There are in this country 1390 members of this group and the percentage of Lutherans among the inhabitants of the homeland is 80 per cent. We have no mission activities among them except that we have made a survey within the past year in order to learn just where they are located.

The Finnish. In the United States there are 264,082 of this group. In the homeland they are 98 per cent Lutheran faith. In this country the statistics reveal the following. 17 Baptist, 26 Congregational, 4 Methodist Episcopal, 47 Lutheran congregations and the total in all these churches is 42,000 of which the Lutheran has 40,000. But this means that more than 150,000 of them are unchurched. It is reported that more than 75.000 Finns have come into Canada and we have but four missions among these thousands who are scattered all over Canada.

The Italian. There are in this country about 3 500,000 of this group. Probably more than these. They have been very largely of the Roman Catholic faith in the homeland. They are very largely in the

cities of America. Fourteen Protestant denominations have work in the Evangelization of this group. Our church has five missions to these people. One in New York, Philadelphia, Erie, Pa., Monessen, Pa., and San Francisco, Cal., each with a pastor. The work among this group has been about as successful as with any of the other groups of "Foreign speaking" people. We are not aiming to convert Roman Catholics but to gather the large unchurched, careless and indifferent of this nationality who have lost their faith in the Catholic Church.

What Should Be Done?

The American Lutheran Church must change her attitude toward the "stranger within her gates." The young people of our churches must recognize these people as Americans. If the churches already here will extend the hand of friendship and love, not in any patronizing way, but as equals, the problem will be solved. If your League will decide to seek out every young man and woman of foreign parentage in your community and make them feel at home among you for the sake of their souls and yours, you will find the greatest joy in your Christian service.

The Church must get a vision of the magnitude and the great responsibility which is ours. This is no minor cause but is distinctly a *major* one for us. Thousands of our young people are lost to us annually. Some to other churches but a large portion to the "Devil," and his "Cause" because we are neglecting our opportunity to keep them in the faith and our church.

Our young people must hear the call which comes for those who will learn the history and the language of a group and prepare themselves for Service to that group. We must have the young people who will respond as one of old "Here Am I, send Me." We must have an adequate ministry who are acquainted with American institutions and the policy of our American Lutheran Church.

What Will Be the Cost?

1. Some time in making a survey of your community and planning for your service.
2. Some time spent in asking God in earnest prayer to show the need of these people, spiritually, and to make you willing to surrender to His call to Service.
3. Some evenings to be given to fellowship with the young people from these groups.
4. Some money to be given to the Board to send the Missionary to places where there is no Lutheran Church.

It Is Being Done

"A little parish in a mid-west mining town was almost dying, a new minister came and his people caught the vision. Now the communicant list is doubled, and twelve nationalities of new and old Americans worship and work for the Master in just the same way as the purely "American congregation used to do."

In a New Jersey town a little church is dying of exclusiveness, while one of the women of the church whose three sons were with the American army in France gave herself to the Italians of the vicinity, then took special training under her Home Mission Board and started several community centers for Italians and is doing one of the best rural works among the foreign-born people in the country."

"A devoted layman in a New York mill town took the lead in his church and now is a veritable father of an Albanian Colony and has led many of them into his church."

Yes, it can be done if you are willing to let the Christ lead you.

Intermediate Department

Dear Intermediates:

(To be read at your first meeting.)

With the writing of the Topics for December the old year in one respect comes to a close. On the other hand we are already planning for the new year, having the Topics for 1927 and the 1927 Reading Course lined up. But before we actually lock the door behind the year 1926 we still have 3 big months to do a world of things. The following are some of the items to be considered.

(1) The Andhra gymnasium in India that we Intermediates of America are building is just about three-fifths finished as far as our contributions are concerned. $282 have been received at the office. But who wants to stop before the job is done? Not an Intermediate among you will stand for such a thing. I know for a fact there are many of our Leagues that have their contributions ready to send in. Send them now. If you are not familiar with the Intermediate League's part in building a Christian College for India's youth just interrupt your leader and ask for the information. Here is the way 36 Leagues have given:

	Previously reported	$247.03
34.	St. Peter's, Beloit, Wis.	25.00
35.	Messiah, Harrisburg, Pa.	5.00
36.	Memorial, Harrisburg, Pa.	5.00
	Total	$282.03

Where are the other 81 Leagues?

(2) There is the Reading Course. What are we doing about it? How many of us know that six books constitute the 1926 Reading Course, and that the state group having the highest number of points for reading the books, in proportion to membership enrolled, will receive a banner at our next national convention in Salisbury, N. C., next summer? How many know that each Leaguer reading five of the six books will receive a certificate, and that a medal will be awarded the Intermediate submitting the best essay on any one of the six books?

The 1927 Reading Course contains the following books, priced at $5.65 for the net.

In Desert and Town.—Wood.
Shepherd of Aintab.—Riggs.
The Singing Weaver.—Seebach.
Paths in the Wilderness.—Sparks
Facts of Our Faith.—Hunton.
Grif of Green Brier Farm.—Park.

(3) Here is something new for our Leagues to consider. The Luther League of America enjoys the patronage of hundreds of loyal friends, who contribute $5.00 or more a year to its work. In return they receive a certificate suitable for framing and enjoy having done a good piece of investing. Were it not for these friends the Luther League would be compelled to lessen its field of work materially. These friends are known as Sustaining Members. Now it is possible for a group to become a Sustaining Member by contributing $5.00 or more. Here is where our Intermediate Leagues come into the picture. By taking out an S. M. for your pastor, superintendent or president, you help the cause at large, and enable the L. L. to do a larger work. We want the L. L. to do a big work. We as Intermediates want to help. Then who will be the first to send $5.00 or more to the Intermediate Secretary?

(4) Another new Item. This pertains to new Leagues. We are growing. Since your Secretary came on the job 44 new Leagues have registered, or at the rate of 5½ Leagues per month. At present there are 117 registered Leagues. There are nine months until the Salisbury Convention. Is it putting it too strong to say we should have 200 Leagues by then? To reach this goal we must grow at the rate of 9 new Leagues per month. Let all who read this appeal consider it a challenge to organize Intermediate Leagues among their 'teen age boys and girls. Write for instructions and literature.

We welcome these new members into our fellowship:

113.	First English, Toledo, Ohio	18
114.	Faith, St. Paul, Minn.	15
115.	St. Simon's, Chicago, Ill.	25
116.	St. James, Lincoln, Neb.	15
117.	St. Paul, Port Carbon, Pa.	14
	Total	87

Fraternally,
ROBERT J. WOLF,
Intermediate Secretary.

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December 5, 1926

THE NEED OF THE SAVIOUR

Rom. 3:9-18

What a sweeping condemnation of the spiritual life of the people of Paul's day! Paul is only quoting from scripture and repeating what the men of God said years before to their hearers. But today, almost 1850 years after Paul speaks, the same things can be said about the spiritual condition of people of this present age. What? did those men of God, did Paul, and do we now mean to say that not a single person is in tune with the heavenly Father's will? Are all men as bad as all that? This question must be answered for the time with a *yes*.

Before going further into our study and without trying to deny what is said above have the following verses read: Ps. 14:1-3; 5:9; 140:3; 10:7; 36:1, and Isa. 59:7. Compare these references with the lesson verses, 10-18. Discuss. Then continue.

Remembering our subject (class repeat it) the men of God who spoke in such seemingly hard terms as Paul speaks in our lesson, merely want to convince men how badly they are in need of the true God, and how utterly impossible it is for anyone in our age to escape the Bible's awful blame without the absolute help of Jesus Christ, God's holy Son, our Saviour. What our lesson means to teach us is this, that under the law we are guilty, condemned and lost, and that no matter how hard we strive to free ourselves we become more helpless the harder we try, except we reach out and lay hold of the saving and helping hand of the Saviour of men.

Now let us study carefully our lesson to see how badly we need the Saviour. (Space will not allow for your Secretary to comment fully on each thought, but he will depend upon the several leaders to do this).

Vs. 10:—Read. Which means that not one stands right with God, none that retains anything of that image of God wherein man was created. Read Gen. 1:26.

Vs. 11:—Read. That not one who understands, not one is searching for God.

Vs. 12:—Read. They have all gone astray, they have one and all become bad. The good that men do has a fault in it somewhere.

Vs. 13, 14:—Read. Their throat is an open grave, ready to swallow up the poor

and innocent. They deceive with their tongues, making a trade of lying. "The poison of asps (venomous snakes) is under their lips," their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.

Vs. 15-17:—Read. They seek opportunities to kill, and leave destruction and sorrow in their path; because they do not know how to keep peace with others or with themselves.

Vs. 18:—Read. The root of all that Paul speaks of is to be found in the fact that they have no fear of God; they do not take him into account, nor consider him as having any part in the shaping of their lives.

This lesson is intended to:

1—Help us see clearly our own weakness.

2—Discourage us against the mistake of working out our own salvation, but not to belittle us.

3—Compel us to look for strength for spiritual life elsewhere.

4—Encourage us to accept Jesus as our Saviour, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

At one time in his life Martin Luther was so sure of being lost that he strove with all his strength to find peace with God; but after many and long vain attempts, was convinced by scripture that his greatest need was a Saviour, and that through Him and Him only could he reach God. Then peace came into his soul, and then began his great effort to lead the world to know God through Christ as he had come to know Him.

Now our lesson may seem harsh, if not cruel. If so, just think of your hopeless condition without the Saviour, and think of the hopeless condition of boys and girls born into the world in utter ignorance of Christ. What then would be the course of your life? Would it not be the same as spoken of in our lesson?

Practical observations:

1—Where in your school life is the Saviour most needed?

2—Where in the world about you is he badly needed?

3—How much does our 20th century Christmas need a Saviour?

December 12, 1926

THY KINGDOM COME

Matt. 6:9-13

Christmas is coming. This is the one message from the Bible that pleases everybody, both young and old. More people carry this message on their lips (at least) than any other message given to the world. Each of us will repeat it often, will plan for it, and on the Day bid our friends and neighbors a Merry Christmas. Gifts will be given and good cheer dispensed all about us. Happiness will reign supreme on the throne of our hearts and joy will abound everywhere.

But of all who join in the glad message of the Day how many will miss the truth and conviction it should bring to them? What is Christmas all about? Who made Christmas possible? What should be the burden of our message on that day? These and many like questions should engage our thoughts most earnestly. Last week we learned how badly we need the Saviour and how helpless we are without Him. In our study today we want to learn about the Kingdom of God, and how that Kingdom once a part of us becomes the key that opens the door to a complete understanding and enjoyment of Christmas Day and everything else connected with our Christian life.

The Kingdom of God! What is it? Has it boundaries? Is it here on earth? What rich deposits of gold and silver has it stored away in its bosom? Who is its ruler? Who are its citizens? Against what other kingdom does it struggle to gain supremacy? What privilege does it offer its citizens; what joys and what hopes? Let us answer these questions.

1—The Kingdom of God is the Kingdom which Christ has founded, and over which he rules supreme.

2—It is the Kingdom of Grace (Love) in this world and the kingdom of Glory in the next. The Kingdom is within us, Lk. 20:21.

3—Its boundaries are determined by the boundless love of God. John 3:16; Lk. 13:18-20.

4—The character of its gold and silver is described in Rom. 14:17; priceless beyond the total wealth of all the earth's rich deposits.

5—Its citizens are described in Mark 10:13-15 and Matt. 5:3-11.

6—The Kingdom of God struggles against the kingdom of darkness and sin, Dan. 2:44.

7—The rewards of citizenship in the Kingdom of God are to be found in James 2:5.

How God's Kingdom Comes

Although the Kingdom is here yet we must pray that it may come to us. Air is all about us, but in order for us to enjoy its benefits we must breathe it in. The Kingdom is here, but it benefits us nothing unless we breathe (pray) it into our souls; Matt. 7:21-23. Since the gospel Kingdom is not intended alone for us, but for all men, it becomes our privilege and duty to extend it to the ends of the earth. Prayer again is our means, for remember we are praying when we say the Lord's prayer, of which Thy Kingdom Come is one of the petitions.

Reflections:

1—What part has the Holy Spirit in the extension of the Kingdom? Read 1 Cor. 12:3 and Titus 2:11-13.

2—How much will a study of the Word of God and a consecrated service upon worship in the house of God aid the Kingdom's growth within us?

3—Why was the scribe in Mark 12:28-34 so near and yet so far from the Kingdom?

4—What was necessary for Nicodemus in John 3:1-15 to do before getting into the Kingdom?

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December 19, 1926

MY GIFT TO THE KING

Matt. 2:1-11

My best gift to the King is my whole life. In the scriptures we are taught to love the Lord with our whole life, Matt. 23:34-36. In song we sing, "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated Lord to Thee," and again, "All that I Am and Have Is Thine, O Lord." In prayer we are taught to pray, "Thy Will be done," and we well know from the Word of God that the will of God is that not one person should perish, Matt. 18:14. Thus in every form of religious expression we indicate to the Lord that our lives are His. And after all the life is the important gift to give, for the surrendered life will produce all that is necessary to loyal service. Without our life the Lord's share will be but as dross. Let us then see what it means to give our life as a gift to the King.

A—We will go out of our way to do Him homage. The Wisemen came from the Far East to Jerusalem to find Him, rather than to wait for Him or the news of Him to reach them. So impatient were they to worship Him and offer their gifts, that they took a long journey on purpose to inquire after Him. Compare the zeal of these Wisemen to the excuses of three would-be-followers of Christ in Luke 9:57-62. The former gave up all, endured pain and peril in seeking the Lord, but the latter were unwilling to surrender anything.

B—We will come early in our boyhood and girlhood to surrender to Him and will always remain true to the Instruction of His Holy Word. The Wisemen had already traveled far upon reaching Jerusalem, but the star that guided them there disappeared when they were six miles from Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. Undismayed at this they inquired where is He that is born King of the Jews? The Bible is our answer book for it says, "Seek and ye shall find." Not always will be without misgivings, 'tis then ask and ye shall be put back on the right road. Although the Wisemen were at their wit's end, they were not at their faith's end; they believed that God, who had brought them hither by His word, would not leave them alone; nor did He; for, behold, the star which they saw in the East went before them.

C—The Wisemen once they had worshipped at the feet of Jesus and had offered Him their gifts, returned directly to their own country without first telling Herod where he could find Jesus, thus preventing His betrayal into the hands of His enemies. This teaches us that our life as a gift must be free of that satanic trait, which in the end did bring Christ's death to pass, Luke 22:48.

Intentionally I recited the 5th clause above ahead of its turn to make my last point more potent, namely, that once we are as true in the gift of our life to Jesus as these Wisemen were, it will be an easy matter to give Him of life's substance. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were the least the Wisemen gave, for they had already given themselves.

"There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing; there is that maketh poor, yet hath great riches." Prov. 13:7. This bit of wisdom totals up the thought of our lesson. Give self and you become rich in the graces of Christian character; but give not self, and although rich in things you are nevertheless poor in character.

D—Our life as a gift demands that we be patient with those about us who neglect salvation; and especially with those who by training and circumstance should love and serve the Lord the more. Here were the Jews who lived, so to speak, so close to where Jesus was born as to be able to rush in a moment to His side and worship Him, but who instead were represented in their councils by men who plotted with Herod to kill Him. Such a condition was grievous enough to discourage the Wisemen. But they persisted in their resolution and today millions of Christian souls are taught a great lesson of patience.

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December 26, 1926

"THE END OF THE ERRAND"

Chap. VI. "Makers of South America."

(Missionary)

(Laura Wade Rice)

Scripture—Rev. 21:1-7; 22-27; 22:1-5.

Hymn—"Hark the Glad Sound." Common Service Book No. 9.

Superintendent—The Bible is God's message to man to show him what God is like, how God feels toward man and how man may become like God. Our Scripture lesson tells the beautiful result of all this effort on God's part for us—a new heaven and a new earth where all is holy and happy. What we have learned from these studies is that the greatest factor in bringing about marvelous changes among the nations has been the Bible preached and taught by man and its teachings lived out in the lives of men and women. For hundreds of years the

Bible existed in its first part, but it was not till Jesus Christ came and told His followers to go everywhere and preach the good news and teach the nations, that the second part of the book was written and carried to the ends of the earth. A Jewish writer, himself not a Christian, has said: "The greatest influence upon European history and civilization has been the Bible. . . . And of the two parts, it is the New Testament which has undoubtedly had the greater influence and has been of the greater importance." (Claude G. Montefiore.)

A—As we think of this we hear again the song of the angels "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." "*For*, unto you is born a Saviour," "I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." And we can add to Montefiore's words and say, "the greatest influence upon *world* civilization has been the part of the Bible which tells of the Son of God and man, born in Bethlehem, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and in our own day becoming more and more the glory of His people Israel.

B—The title of the last chapter of the book is "The leaves of the tree." Someone said that the Cross is the tree which has healed the nations. However that may be, it is where the story of the Cross has been told that the leaves of the tree which were said to be for the healing of the nations are found.

C—One leaf is music-hymns, Christianity has set people everywhere to singing "Jesus loves me, this I know," has been put into many languages. Former heathen are now writing their own Christian hymns. (Read 215-218.) So is earth catching the refrain of the Christmas angels.

D—Knowledge is another leaf. Alphabets, dictionaries and grammars have been made for savages so they might learn to read the Bible. The Bible could not now be taken from civilized lands without tearing their laws and libraries to pieces and destroying their schools. This Book has made books.

E—This Book has built schools, hospitals, orphanages, old folks' homes, (even in lands once heathen). Heathenism does not do this. Paganism burns the aged and throws unwanted babies under bushes to be torn by dogs.

F—The leaves of the tree are falling from printing presses in all lands. Mackay in Africa, carrying the little press he begged his father for when he was nine, the paralyzed Jewish Christian Bishop Scherischewsky in China—thousands of missionary translators and printers and publishers all over the world are scattering these leaves. Our part is to buy the presses and furnish the paper and pay for the work. What better aim can we have in making money than to use it for God in this way, and thus scatter the leaves that are healing the nations.

(Many items from Chap. VI may be gleaned by the Superintendent for this meeting.)

Lesson—Makers of South America. W. Barbrooke Grubb, Chap. XII.

Leader—The angel said, "I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to *all* people" and the chorus rang, "Peace on earth, Good will to men." It has often been hard for the messengers of the Christ who was born in Bethlehem to make some of the "all people" believe in peace and goodwill because others have treated them with cruelty and hate.

A—A Missionary has often had to take his life in his hand and be willing to give it up when he became a messenger of Jesus. Talk about the knights of old and the courage with which they went out on their "quests," it was as nothing compared to that shown in W. Barbrooke Grubb's adventures in Paraguay!

B—This little republic is cut in two by its river. On the eastern side twinkle the electric lights of busy towns and cities—across the water dark forests rise from the shore, tangled swamps and wildernesses hide the shaky little Indian huts from which few explorers ever returned. (Read first paragraph, page 226.)

C—No joy, good will or peace was to be found among the Chaco Indians. But the twenty-three year old boyish missionary meant to take them just those very things in the name of Christ. Two other thoughts were in his mind, "Be brave," "Be friendly."

D—His training began at nineteen among the savages of Tierra del Fuego—and as he had ideas of experiences of his own, he was not after a soft job or even an easy one, so he did not settle on the coast where he could slip away when things grew too hot—he did try to go up stream in a steam launch, but reeds and rushes got in his way. An alligator tried to swallow his canoe so he went into the interior on horseback. (Read pp. 227-229.)

E—A white man who ordered them around and had no fear was a curiosity to the Indians. They thought he must be a good one to know a great chief. When they tried to steal from his camp he gave a big schoolboy war-whoop—and the rest of the night he slept in peace. An Indian breaking into his hut at night "to keep the dog from stealing the missionary's meat," was caught by his shaggy hair and pushed back through the hole he had made in the wall. (Read the "liquor" story, pp. 130-131.)

F—His first station was in a region

called Thlagnasinkinmith, or "the place of many wood ticks." The men who carried his stuff made trouble (pp. 131-132). But harder was it to eat food from their greasy clay pots, to smoke their pipes without wetting the stem, to drink the water strained through their old blankets, but Grubb was "in it" for any sacrifice to help his Master save men. (Pp. 133-135.)

G—Under his influence for the first time the Lengua Mascoy Indians lived on in a village where a death had occurred. The religion he taught them was plain simple love of Christ and obedience to Him, no ceremonies, such as the Romish priests used, so the work went slowly. It was seven years before the first Church was built. Grubb's Indians were made responsible for it and for their schools and industries, and to civilize and Christianize their own people. Read the testimony of his first convert. (P. 138.)

Grubb and the other missionaries have helped the Indians to establish a peaceful government, to found a village where each Indian owns his own house, garden and cattle, earns his living by a good trade, has money in the Indian bank, knows how to read and write and sends his children to school. Village policemen drive witch-doctors and wizards away, and keep order when necessary. "The plucky young fellows" as a tourist in Paraguay has called the missionaries have made the Chaco country safe for a hundred miles back from the river shore, because in the name of Him who was born in Bethlehem they took peace and good will to the Indians.

Leader—Shall we not test our lives by such a life as this, our loyalty to our Christ by His loyalty, our courage by his courage, I say:

"What one man has done for Christ another man can do if He asks it. At all events, wherever I am, whether I be boy or girl, I will be brave and true, loving and helpful *for Him.*"

Junior Department

"TAKE CARE OF THE JUNIORS AND THE SENIOR LEAGUE WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF"

DO YOUR JUNIORS GO TO CHURCH?

Why not encourage church attendance by putting up in your room a Roll like this? You can easily make it. Send fifteen cents to the office for a packet containing the church, the children and the lettering for the title—all cut from black paper, all ready to paste on. Get a sheet of ordinary white cardboard, paste these on as shown in the accompanying sketch. Print the names of all your Juniors on the card, and then add a gold star for each church service they attend.

This is the first of a series of posters which we will have ready for the leaders. Each month we will suggest an easy one for which we can supply the material, which you can use to make your Junior meeting interesting.

Will the Juniors be at the BIG Convention? They will be expected!

THANKSGIVING HINTS

Have a "Pilgrim Party." Let the Juniors give a program of Thanksgiving recitations and exercises, invite the parents, and have some of the girls, dressed in Puritan costume (grey chintz slips with white kerchiefs) serve coffee and doughnuts.

Have a "Can Party." Have a special Thanksgiving program, and have each Junior bring a can of vegetables or fruit, to be sent afterward to a hospital or one of our orphanages.

Last Thanksgiving eight Junior Leagues reported special programs, five sent baskets to the poor, others sent fruit and jellies to the Orphan Home, one sent books to a Children's Sanatorium, one toys to the Virgin Islands, and one gave a party to poor children. There is always something your Juniors can do to help others at Thanksgiving.

"The Children's Book of Thanksgiving Stories" ($1.75) is an excellent book of stories to tell at this time. It may be ordered from the United Lutheran Publication House, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Milton Bradley's "Pilgrim Village Cut-Out" (50¢) will help make your Thanksgiving meeting interesting. Cut out and colored, it will not only interest the little Leaguers (those under eight) but will attract the attention of the parents and the rest of the congregation, if when completed it is displayed on a table.

Perry Pictures 1337 (Puritans Going to Church) and 1339 (Pilgrims Going to Church) are good to use at this time. Put the ten-cent size on the wall of your room, distribute the two-cent size or one-cent size to the Juniors to take home. Order from the Perry Picture Company, Malden, Mass. (Do not send for less than fifty cents worth at one time.)

Other interesting Thanksgiving material: "The Best Thanksgiving Book" (40¢) and "Pieces and Plays for Thanksgiving Day" (40¢), two books of recitations and exercises appropriate to the Thanksgiving season. "Pilgrim Built Up Posters," a series of ten pictures to be cut out and mounted on colored paper (50¢) which the little Leaguers will enjoy. Write to this office if you wish to know where these may be obtained.

WHAT OF THE SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP?

The York District Juniors (this District is one of the leaders in our Life Service Department) has taken out two Sustaining Memberships, and honored Lois Ann Portz and Rees Greer Portz, the two interesting children of our Life Service Secretary—the Rev. C. A. Portz.

This makes 44 Sustaining Memberships taken out by Junior Leagues this year. During November and December our big work is to see what the final number will be. Every Junior League having money in the treasury before the close of the year should if possible take out a $5 Sustaining Membership. Send the money to Mr. John Greiner, Jr., 400 Lackawanna Ave., Scranton, Pa., and report to the Junior Secretary that you have sent same.

What is the Sustaining Membership? Some one said, "we would have our Juniors take out a Sustaining Membership, if we knew what good it did! The Andhra College Junior Objective is something definite, we are helping to build a college, but the Sustaining Membership is so vague, it does not seem to be anything tangible!" The Sustaining Membership *is* something definite, and it *does* do good! Here is what it does:

(1) It is a Fund which helps the Luther League of America do those extra things which it could not do otherwise. The dues received pay only current expenses, office routine, such as clerk, telephone, stationery, etc., and the necessary travel to state conventions. All "extras" come from the Sustaining Membership Fund—the special conferences, extension work, literature, and the like.

(2) The Educational. Missionary and Life Service Secretaries are aided in their work by this Fund, to the extent of two hundred dollars each. The growth of these departments has been made possible with this small sum. What might be done in these departments if our Sustaining Membership Fund were large enough to permit expansion here, is left to the imagination.

(3) The Intermediate Secretary is helped and literature made possible for this department by the Fund. The need of the 'teen age work is obvious.

(4) The Junior Department is largely benefitted by the Sustaining Membership. The office of Junior Secretary is made possible, the fifty or more Junior pamphlets is also made possible, the extension work of this department—all this because of the Sustaining Membership.

Yes, the Sustaining Membership *is* something definite. Without it the Luther League of America could not have reached the high plane of efficiency on which she now stands. Without it she will not be able to remain on that plane, nor rise to the higher opportunities upon which we are even now looking with longing eyes. *Has your Junior League taken out a Sustaining Membership?*

THE 1927 READING COURSE

The Reading Course for the Juniors for 1927 is:

Two Young Arabs—Zwemer	.75
Friends of Ours—Colson	.75
Pictures Every Child Should Know—Bacon	1.00
Uncle Jim's Bible Stories—James	.75
Martin of Mansfeld—Seebach	.75
Christmas Legends and Stories—Curtis	1.50
Total	$5.50

Plan *now* to use these books. Arrange to get them by January first, and then start them in circulation at once.

Two of these books are ones which were used in previous Courses. We included these so that each year you need not purchase an entire new set, but only a part, adding each year to what you have, and thus building up a Junior League library.

Do not forget to report to Sister Alma Boarts, 833 Colfax Street, Toledo, Ohio, the total number of Juniors who have completed the 1926 Course. Each Junior reported, who has not already received it, will be awarded a Certificate. All Junior Leagues having every member complete the Course will be awarded a large picture for the wall of their room. And the Banner for the State having the largest percentage will be presented at the Salisbury convention. Send in your report by December first.

THE JUNIOR TOPICS FOR 1927

The new 1927 Topics will be the "best ever." There will be

12 Missionary Topics—6 on "Two Young Arabs"
6 On a Trip to the Holy Land
4 On Paul's Missionary Journeys
6 Picture Stories
6 Church Hero Stories
4 On the Luther League
A Reformation, Thanksgiving and Christmas Program and a special series of Summer Meetings.

A most fascinating array of supplementary material will be available for these Topics, and we know the Juniors will enjoy and profit by their study. A number of our best Junior leaders, and trained workers with children have been secured to prepare these Topics. The complete list will be given next month.

OUR JUNIOR GOALS FOR SALISBURY

1—200 new Junior Leagues
2—50 Gold Star Junior Leagues
3—200 Juniors completing the 1927 Reading Course
4—50 Junior Secretaries and Superintendents present.

Help us reach these goals!

NEWS

The New Jersey State Luther League had a most interesting convention in Camden over Labor Day. Mr. Dittmer and the Junior Secretary attended. Mrs. Virgil Sease, formerly Missionary Secretary, conducted a most interesting model League meeting, and gave splendid talks on the Educational Department, Life Service, and the Reading Course. Mr. Dittmer of course told us "it is a great thing to be a Luther Leaguer!" There was a talk on Junior work and an exhibit of Junior material. A number of Juniors from Trinity, Camden, were present. The Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, of Trenton, gave one of his splendid Chalk Talks, especially adapted to Junior League work. And last, but not least, there was the big Banquet at the Walt Whitman, with Dr. Grafflin as the speaker. Things are "moving along" in New Jersey Junior Leagueally. The State Secretary is making special plans for the circulation of the Reading Course, their "hat is in the ring" for the banner at Salisbury!, and three rallies with the Juniors will be held shortly.

Christ, Detroit, Michigan, opened the season with a joint banquet for the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Leagues. The Juniors gave the exercise, "Luther's Coat of Arms." This is a good way to establish the full program of the Luther League of America—or-

ganize the three departments and have them work together.

Zion, Frackville, Pa., Junior League, gave a Japanese Tea two evenings recently. This League has just completed their payment of $3,000 for the chancel window in their new church. That's the way Juniors work! They have 125 members, had a camp for the girls over ten this summer, held a Vacation Bible School in connection with the League, and are a Red Star Junior League.

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THE JUNIORS' OWN CORNER

DEAR JUNIORS:

This corner is to be your very own, with your names in it sometimes!

A splendid report of the Shiner Junior League was given at the Texas State League convention by one of the Juniors, Hertha Liebhafsky.

The following Juniors in Messiah, Wesleyville, Pa., Junior League, have completed the 1926 Reading Course: Harry Kissinger, Charles Kissinger, Margaret Read, Leota Dougan, Opal Dougan, Elizabeth Factler.

Katherine Traver, the daughter of our General Secretary, recently celebrated her twelfth birthday. So she's now no longer a Junior, but an Intermediate. Best wishes, Katherine, and may you always be a loyal Luther Leaguer.

WATCH THIS SPACE
NEXT MONTH!

We cannot tell when we write this who won the Poster Contest for October. We will announce the winner next month. The best of the Luther Posters will be taken to Salisbury.

Be sure to make a Thanksgiving Poster and send it to me before November 30. Address it to Miss Brenda L. Mehlhouse, 806 Muhlenberg Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa. It may advertise your Thanksgiving meeting, or illustrate something you learned there.

Send in a report of the Thanksgiving meeting.

Sincerely yours,
BRENDA L. MEHLHOUSE.

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ANNOUNCING MISSIONARY TOPICS FROM JANUARY TO JUNE, 1927

The boys and girls will be delighted with the journey through Moslem Lands, which is planned for the first six months of 1927. Helps are unusually fine. Junior leaders should have the following supplies:

TWO YOUNG ARABS, by Amy E. Zwemer, the book for which these helps are prepared. Single copy for the leader and as many copies as possible for the boys and girls. Price 50 cents paper, 75 cents cloth.

A book of program suggestions and helps, HOW TO USE TWO YOUNG ARABS, price 10 cents.

LIGHT BRIGADE PROGRAM PACKET, price 30 cents. Contains a copy of "How to Use Two Young Arabs" and other helpful leaflets.

POSTER PATTERNS on Moslem Lands, designed by Maude Evelyn Bradley. An envelope containing seven full size patterns for posters in the popular cut paper work with full instructions and colored reproductions of the posters in miniature as a guide. Also a sheet of cut paper and pen and ink alphabets and numbers. The most inexperienced leader can use these patterns. They are designed especially for use in connection with the book, Two Young Arabs. Leaders who were delighted with Miss Bradley's Poster Patterns on Brave Adventurers will rejoice in this new set on Moslem Lands. Price 50 cents.

PATTERN SHEETS Modes of Travel for Two Young Arabs. These patterns are printed on colored sheets. In groups in which they have been used they have proved fascinating to the boys and girls who look forward eagerly to a camel for the trip through Arabia, an elephant for their amount for India, a prancing charger to take them through Persia, a Nile boat for Africa, a kneeling camel for the journey through Egypt, and a donkey on which they may enter the Jerusalem gate. The complete set of patterns is on every sheet. Price 10 cents per dozen sheets.

TICKETS. Tickets for the journey are printed on strips resembling regular tourist tickets, via Arabia, India, Persia, North Africa, Egypt, and Jerusalem. These tickets to be punched by a "conductor" add greatly to the thrilling interest of the trip. Each member of the class should have a ticket. Price 10 cents per dozen.

PICTURE SHEETS. Three subjects.

Life in Moslem Lands.

Boys and Girls of Bible Lands.

Egypt, and Modern Heroes of Bible Lands.

These are twelve page folders containing pictures, each with a short description. Useful for scrapbooks and posters. Price 25 cents each folder.

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December 5, 1926

MISSIONARY TOPICS

The Church

Mrs. E. C. Cronk

This program is the last in the series of six, which are based on the book "Better Americas, III," by Herbert Wright Gates.

AIM: *To help the boys and girls appreciate the value of the church and the services which it renders to help make a better America, and to enlist them in its service to become loyal and useful members.*

1. PERIOD OF WORSHIP:

a. Hymn: God Bless Our Native Land.

b. Scripture Reading: Matt. 5:13-16. Follow the reading with comments suggested on page 141.

c. Prayer.

2. APPROACH TO THE LESSON. See page page 132.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF THE LESSON. In addition to the suggestions given on pages 132 and 133, a very simple drawing made on blackboard or on a large sheet of manila paper, may help to develop the lesson. The drawing of a town with some homes, a church, a hospital, a library, a school, and various other buildings may be added. One of the juniors may be told to erase or mark out the church. A discussion may follow of what other buildings must be marked out if the church goes. The discussion will likely bring out that if it were not for the church, there would be no hospital, no school, no orphanage, and so forth. Some leaders have developed this idea by making a village with cardboard models, and by removing one building after another, when the church is taken away.

4. STUDY PERIOD. Tell the stories: "No Church in Town," "Victory on Little Lost," and "The Other Fellow's Burden," see pages 133-139.

5. EXPRESSIONAL AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES. Unusually full suggestions for service activities are given on pages 139-140.

EXHIBIT. Leaders will find that an exhibit showing the handwork done during the course of the six lessons, with models, pictures and objects of interest in connection with them, will interest a large circle of parents and friends.

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December 12, 1926

PAUL, WHO CARRIED THE TORCH TO OTHER LANDS

Acts 16:9, 10

(This is the last of the Torchbearer Lessons.) Make it a Review Meeting. The week before assign to a number of Juniors the names of the Torchbearers already studied, and have them be prepared to tell the story of each in the meeting. Assign Abraham, the first Torchbearer, Joseph, Who Carried the Torch to Egypt; Moses, who held the Torch high for his people; Gideon, whose Torch led his people to victory; David, whose Torch helped his people become a nation; Elijah, whose Torch reminded people of God; Ruth, who carried the Torch of love; John, the Baptist, whose Torch showed the way for the great Torchbearer; Four men who carried the Torch; Philip, who carried the Torch to a man in a chariot; and Jesus, the Light of the World. A little exercise or pageant may be arranged by having those Juniors tell their stories in order, each carrying a torch (which can be made from white cardboard, with red for the flame, and bearing the name of the Torchbearer they represent in gold letters.) The balance of the program may be given over to the study of Paul, the Torchbearer lesson for the day.

DAILY BIBLE LESSONS

(To be given by six Juniors.)

Paul's torch kindled—Acts 9:3-9
Paul—persecutor—Acts 8:11
Paul's Sermon—Acts 9:20-22
Paul's First Mission—Acts 13:2, 3, 47, 48
What Paul Endured—2 Cor. 28:30, 31
Paul in Rome—Acts 28:30, 31

Leader—Today we shall hear about a Torchbearer who at first did not want to do God's work, but afterward became one of His greatest workers Sometimes Junior boys and girls are just like that—they do not want to work for the Lord, it is too much trouble for them to help in Junior League or do anything they are asked to do. But the Lord needs them, and has work for them. Often He needs us for leaders. And leaders—men and women who do big, great things, are just boys and girls grown up—but the kind of boys and girls who were willing to do things. Let us hear the story of Paul, the one who carried the torch to other lands.

Junior—Saul, for that was Paul's name at first, did not want to do the Lord's work. He hated Jesus, and persecuted all those who followed Him. But the Lord changed his heart.

Junior—As Paul was going down the road to Damascus he was suddenly blinded. For three days he could see nothing. And during those three days the Lord spoke to his heart, and changed it, so that he saw Him as He really is and believed on Him.

Junior—When his eyes were opened again, the first thing Paul did—for his name was changed now—was to preach and teach about Jesus. Just as anxious as he was to destroy Jesus' followers before, just as eagerly now did he work for Him. He preached boldly everywhere.

Junior—Paul was not content to work only in his own land, but so anxious to spread the Gospel that he planned to carry the Torch of the Gospel to other lands. He traveled to Rome, which in those days was a long, dangerous journey. He became the first missionary. In all he took three missionary journeys. He became one of the greatest men in the Kingdom. He suffered much for the Lord's sake, but he never gave up preaching and teaching the word of God and the story of God's only Son whom he loved and served.

A Story to be Told by a Junior—We often think that the greatest person in the world is the one who gets fame and honor and power. But the one who does right and has the love of God in his heart is greater than one who has all power, no matter how poor or lowly he may be.

A rich, proud emperor sat on his throne. He was the proudest, the most powerful emperor in the world. Everybody obeyed him, for he had the whole world in his power. He spent all his time in seeing what good times he could have. He delighted in cruel sports and when nothing else was left to enjoy, he

had the people who believe in a strange God whom he did not know, thrown to wild beasts, or burned alive, or dragged behind chariots.

Down in a dungeon underneath the emperor's palace in a dark cell lay an old grey-haired man—one of these men who believed in the true God. He was in chains, he had suffered many things. One day the cell door was opened, he was led out—his eyes, used to the darkness of the dungeon were almost blinded by the bright sunshine which he had not seen for so long. He was led forth—not to freedom—but to be taken down the road from Rome—as the story goes—to be put to death.

Which of these two do you think was the greatest—the powerful man on his throne, or the poor prisoner?

But wait a moment. Years go by. The power and glory of the emperor pass away, soldiers burn his city, others rule there. But the man who had been in prison was a man who had gone about preaching about Jesus, he had been thrown in prison because he believed in Him. And people hearing his story, remembered him, and learned of his great work, and his suffering, even to death, because he believed in Jesus. And his memory lived on.

And today, when a little baby boy is born and parents wish to give him the name of one of the greatest men our Bible tells us about—they often call their little son—*Paul.* And we call our dogs Nero!

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December 19, 1926

SUPPOSE THERE WERE NO CHRISTMAS!

Luke 2:10, 11

(Plan for your Christmas meeting early. Get the leaflet "Christmas in the Junior League—from the office, 3c. Go caroling Christmas Eve if it is possible. Plan to send or take gifts to one of our institutions. Have a Christmas party for the Juniors. Give the Christmas Pageant "Emblems of Christmas," which you can secure from the office at five cents a copy.)

Christmas Stars

(To be given by six Juniors, carrying large stars cut from silver paper, with the words Saviour, Salvation, Heaven, Love, Joy, Sacrifice, in black letters.)

No Christ—1 John 4:13
No Salvation—Acts 4:12
No Heaven—1 Cor. 15:19
No Message of Love—John 3:16
No Real Joy—Luke 24:17, 21
No Sacrifice—Heb. 9:28.

Suppose There Were No Christmas!

Junior—I love Christmas! As I was coming down the street to Junior League I saw a lot of Christmas trees being taken off the wagon and put up along the curb. I can hardly wait until Christmas comes, because we always have a tree, all full of bright shining balls, and the whole house smells of pine, and when the lights are lit at night, the tree looks beautiful. Just suppose, there were no Christmas!

Junior—Mother took me down town the other day through the stores, and I saw, oh, so many fine things. The stores are just full of dolls, and toys and pretty things. When I left home Big Sister was busy wrapping up a whole lot of packages with red ribbon. They were all gifts. I can hardly wait until Christmas comes because I love to get Christmas presents! Suppose there were no Christmas!

Junior—At our house mother was busy all morning getting some of the things ready for the Christmas dinner. I love to think about that! Just think of the turkey, and the cranberries, and the celery and the nuts and oranges and all the other good things to eat! Just suppose there were no Christmas!

Junior—Don't forget why we all have these things. If it were not for the first Christmas we would not have all the good times at Christmas. The trees stand for Jesus, for He shall live forever, the gifts are to remind us that God gave us His best gift—His only Son on Christmas, and the good things we have to eat are part of the joy and happiness of the day. Suppose there were no Christmas! Suppose there had been no first Christmas Day!

Junior—I like to think of the Shepherds out on the hills watching their sheep, and the message which the angels brought them. I like to think of them going silently down into the little city of Bethlehem, to find the little Christ Child and His mother in a manger.

All sing "Silent Night."

Junior—I like to think of that tiny Babe, which was the world's first great Christmas gift. He came not like a King, but poor and lowly, but He came as God's only Son, to be the Saviour of the World. Just suppose He had not come! Suppose the world still had no One to save them from sin! Suppose there were no Christmas!

Junior—I like to think of the three wise men who came to bring gifts to the little Christ Child. They brought them because of love. And it was God's great love for us which led Him to send us His only Son to be our Saviour. I like to think of God's great love which made the first Christmas. Suppose there were no Christmas!

All sing "We Three Kings of Orient Are," or "As with Gladness Men of Old."

Leader—(The leader may take five minutes to further bring out the Christmas story.)

Recitation of Christmas story—memorized by children—angel story, wise men story.

Sentence Prayers—By Juniors.

Followed by:
Dear Heavenly Father.
For the Babe of Bethlehem.
For the joys of Christmas time.
For the chance of giving this joy to others.
For the joy that fills our hearts.
We thank Thee.

("The Nativity Play," "The Story of a Star," "The First Christmas" are exercises which may be found on the pamphlet "Christmas with the Juniors." This may be given to conclude your meeting, or the pageant, "Emblems of Christmas" may well be given if you make this a public Christmas program.)

December 26, 1926

SOME "I WILLS" FOR 1927

Josh. 24:15

(Make this a New Year Meeting. Distribute sheets of paper folded in half to form books. Have Juniors print on corner "New Year's Resolutions" or "Some 'I Wills' For 1927" and then print neatly inside the resolutions brought out in the Topic. Have them resolve to keep these as far as possible during the year.)

THE TOPIC

Hymn.

Memory Verse—Joshua 24:15. "But as for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

Leader (a Junior)—Today we are going to make some New Year resolutions. Our Bible has many stories which tell us of some things we can resolve to do.

Junior—"A Good Resolution." My story is the Story of the Prodigal Son. We all know how he went away from home, sinned, and then resolved to come back again to his father and ask him to forgive him. Our verse says, "I will arise and go to my father and will say unto him, Father I have sinned against heaven and before thee."

Perhaps some of us have not done all we could this last year. Perhaps we have become angry, and spoken harshly. Some of us may have cheated in our lessons, or cared too much for play. Some of us may have wanted things we could not have. All of us have tried and grieved our kind Heavenly Father in some way. We can all ask that He forgive us and try to do better this year. Let us write in our books, "I will try to do right in all things this year."

Junior—"I Will" in Prayer. In Matt. 26:39 we have a picture of Jesus praying. He asked not for things for Himself. He said, "Not as I will, but as Thou wilt." Some of us when we pray always ask for things for ourselves. We ask perhaps for things which would not be good for us to have. Our Heavenly Father knows what we need, and He sends to each of us the best for us. Let us write next in our books, "I will pray every day and ask God to give me those things I should have." (It might be well to have these "I Wills" written on the blackboard as each is given for the Juniors to copy.)

Junior—"I Will" Praise. Psalm 89:1 tells us, "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever, with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations." How often do we forget to praise God for His goodness. How often we forget to say "thank you" to Him for what He has done for us! And more, how often we forget to show our praise and thanks, by forgetting to come to church and learn more of Him, and bringing others. "I will praise the Lord by doing whatever work for Him I can," would be a good thing to write in our books.

Junior—"I Will" Follow Jesus. Jesus when He wanted disciples, called men, some from gathering money, some from their fishermen's boats, and said, "Follow Me." In John 12:26 He says, "If any man serve me, let him follow me." So Juniors must follow Jesus. They must love Him, they must learn of Him, they must help in His work. Let us write, "I will follow Jesus, and do as He would have me do."

Junior—"I Will" Serve. Gal. 5:13 tells us "by love serve one another." We must help bear one another's burdens. We can all help by doing kind deeds for another. Wouldn't it be serving, if we went to the store cheerfully when mother asked? Or if we played with baby brother while mother prepared the meal? Or if we helped some one in trouble? Or paid a visit to some one sick? Let us write in our book, "I will help every one I can."

Junior—"I Will" Obey. Let us all recite those verses about the House on the Rock and the House on the Sand. (If the Juniors do not know these—Matt. 7:24, 25, have them read two or three times and then repeated. They will be easily memorized.) We must obey all the commandments of the Lord, not just hear them.

That is a very good foundation on which to build the New Year. The Rock on which we can all build is Jesus Christ.

Let us write in our books "I will obey the Lord."

Superintendent's Five Minutes—A short talk by the superintendent on helping the Juniors to carry out these resolutions, and on plans for the New Year.

Sentence Prayers—

Dear Lord, forgive the mistakes we have made this last year.

Help us to do more and more for Thee this coming year.

Be with our Junior League in all its meetings during the year.

Help us to plan our work so that we may better serve Thee. Bless all our efforts to be Thy children, and to learn of Thee and to do Thy work.

For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Closing— Hymn, Lord's Prayer.

"Prexy" Geelhaar of the Canadian League

Secretary Laura Keil does the heavy work for him.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE OF CANADA

September 6th, 1926, marked one of the most historical events in the Canadian Lutheran Church, the Union of the Jugenbund and the Canada Luther League.

The Canada Luther League met in First English Church, Kitchener, at 9:45. Dr. Maurer pointed out that the work of our church depends on our young people, and that we should all have the spirit of unity and love. He asked the Leaguers to work with the young people of the Jugenbund so that we may not realize that there were ever two organizations. This session adjourned with praying the Lord's Prayer. The Leaguers then proceeded to St. Matthew's Church, where the merger took place. Rev. W. Schmidt, president of the Canada Luther League, read their resolution, followed by Rev. R. B. Geelhaar, president of the Jugenbund. The opening service was conducted by Rev. Mr Reble, President of the Synod of Canada. Rev. Mr. Reble spoke words of encouragement to the young people, asking them all to unite to build and strengthen our beloved Lutheran Church of Canada. The praying of the Lord's Prayer brought this session to a close.

The afternoon session opened at 2 P.M., Prof. Willison conducting the opening service.

The following officers were elected:

President—Rev. R. B. Geelhaar, Listowel.

Vice-President—Mr. Clinton Fetterley, Morrisburg.

Secretary—Miss Laura Keil, Guelph.

Field Secretary—Mr. A. Mehlenbacher, Port Colborne.

Literary Secretary—Mr. J. Schaus, Hanover.

Treasurer—Mr. N. Bolduc, Waterloo.

After this, Rev. A. J. Traver, of Philadelphia, General Secretary of the Luther League of America, brought greetings to us. He invited our Leaguers to join the L. L. of America. A special committee was appointed to deal with this matter, and to bring it before our next meeting.

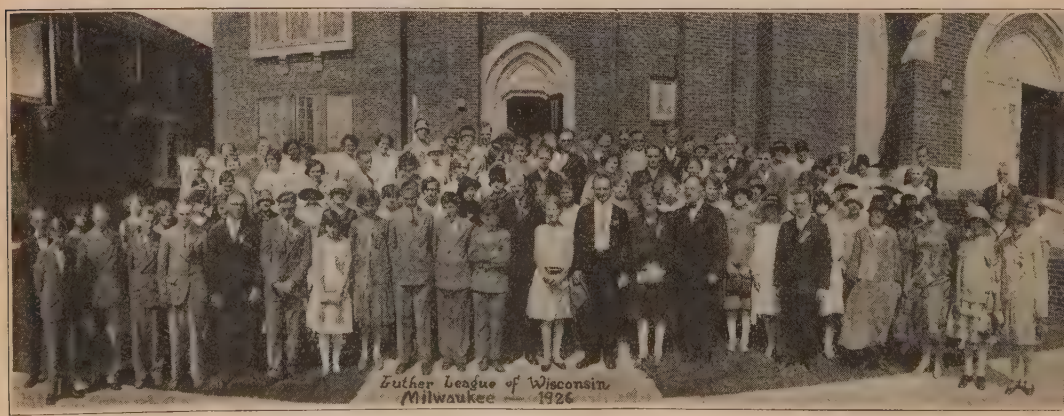
An address, "Devotional Helps," was then read by Mr. Wahl of Tonawanda. Although Mr. Wahl's time was very limited, he impressed upon the Leaguers the necessity of the devotional meeting.

Miss Szember brought greetings from India. She asked that our young people pray for the people in India, as also did Rev. Prof. Mannikan of India.

At 7:30 the opening of the Rally Service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Schmieder, followed with a sermon by Rev. Mr. Traver. His text was taken from the 13th chapter of St. John, verse 38. Rev. Mr. Traver asked that our young people might live a life of service for *joy*, in *fellowship* and *for Jesus' sake*. A life of service for the Fellowship that is in it. A life of service for Jesus' sake. Let us love Him, because He first loved us; and when we love Him, we will serve Him. Jesus asked Peter, "Wilt than lay down thy life for Me?" So, too, does He challenge us. Should we not answer "Here am I, send me."

The candlelight installation service was then conducted by Dr. Maurer. It was a very impressive service, and was a fitting conclusion to this historic meeting.

The bunch that entertained us in Milwaukee, 1925



President Wise of North Carolina. He will greet you July 2-5, 1927.

LUTHER LEAGUE OF NEW JERSEY

Rev. Dorr E. Fritts

All in attendance at the Camden Convention agreed with fervor that this was indeed a "mountain top" experience in the Luther League history of good old New Jersey. From the opening tour and play night to the closing grand banquet, we were thrilled and our lives enriched with ideas and methods and new visions of League work which we were eager to come home and try out. Just ask someone who was there and see if words do not fail to express all that this convention really meant to him. Think of our growth from a mere handful to a registration of 118 and a banquet of 200 guaranteed places! It is "Sure great to be a Luther Leaguer!" Do not our souls still glow with "Follow the Gleam" and shall we not, as we sang, "Launch out for the coming year?" It is the full confidence of your president that we shall follow this gleam of glorious Luther League achievement by launching out at once on these few high points.

1. Twelve point perfection in every League. Make a careful study of that worthy list of possible aims and "stand by" until they are reached. East Orange carried away the pennant with the proud consciousness of having kept seven of these points for the year.

2. The Andhra appeal continued and finished this year, happy indeed that the $300 mark is reached and the $500 not far off if all work with willing hands.

3. "The New Jersey Mosquito" made the effective instrument that it can be by reporting to the Editor regularly your League doings and new ideas. We all want to know and grow therein.

4. That all moneys where there is a district go through the District Treasurer's hands who in turn is responsible for their collection. Dues remain the same—25c. State and 25c. National, per member.

5. That the full and complete program of the Luther League of America be indorsed and incorporated in our State, District and Local Leagues. Special emphasis of weekly devotional meetings with LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW and *Luther League Topics* used along with other literature and helps.

6. The following secretaries carefully chosen in addition to the regular officers in every League: Missionary Secretary, Educational Secretary, Life Service Secretary, Intermediate and Junior Secretary. Each to function through the District, State and National Leagues. This last if thoroughly done will develop all sides of the League work and bring tremendous results.

This glorious convention with six new Leagues added and a vision of work never even approached before only awaits you and me as we carry on in the home League and put it all into life.

IT'S GREAT TO BE A

LUTHER LEAGUER.

THE NORTH CAROLINA LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION

No more enthusiastic and earnest group of Luther Leaguers ever met for convention than did those attending the North Carolina State Convention held in China Grove, N. C., on August 31st, September 1, and 2nd, 1926. Ninety-six delegates, many friends and visitors were present to enjoy the program.

The officers gave reports of high achievements in all departments. Twelve new leagues were enrolled. The budget was over-subscribed and paid. The report of the campaign for more extensive use of Luther League Literature was very gratifying. The state boasts of four first honor and sixteen standard leagues. Sincere and capable young men and women were elected to direct the North Carolina League to higher service during the coming year.

The theme of the convention was "The Master Calleth Thee," John 11:28. The first evening program began with a twilight organ recital by Dr. Hampton A. Stirewalt. Throughout the convention many beautiful numbers of vocal music were rendered. With the disappointment of not having Dr Bauslin on Tuesday evening came the joy of having Rev. A. J. Traver "knock a home run as pinch hitter." The Wednesday morning session was filled with the officers' reports and fraternal greetings. The afternoon period contained a discussion of Luther League methods. On Wednesday evening the convention enjoyed coming together for the banquet at the Hotel Yadkin, Salisbury, N. C. Thursday morning was given to the reports of committees, election of officers and other unfinished business. Thursday afternoon contained the discussion of Intermediate Leaguers, Columbia Seminary appeal by Dr. W. H. Greever, D.D., and unfinished business. On Thursday evening Rev. Henry C. Rachner, D.D., gave a stirring address based upon the theme "The Master Calleth Thee to the Upper Room." After the installation of officers the convention ended with closing vespers.

Miss Rosa Sox,
Vice-President of the L. L. of A. and Treasurer of the N. C. League. "How the money rolls in."

WISCONSIN'S BIGGEST AND BEST LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION

Walter Leininger

Truly it takes a convention to bring out a unanimous, "It's great to be a Luther Leaguer these days."

Wisconsin set out to make the twenty-eighth state convention the "Biggest and *Best*" convention ever held in Wisconsin, and *it was*.

With "The Call of Youth" to the various phases of the Luther League program, Education, Life-Service and Missions as a convention theme a hundred young men and women representing twenty churches in Wisconsin assembled at the Evangelical Church of the Resurrection, Milwaukee, Rev. L. W. Steckel, D.D., pastor, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 17, 18, 19.

Here is Walter Leininger Wisconsin's good-looking President

The reports of the various officers and committees were very gratifying and manifested the progress made during the past year. It was the first convention at which a report was heard from departmental secretaries directly responsible for promoting the Educational Life-Service and Missionary programs in the state.

The convention was very fortunate in the speakers selected to bring the various messages. The inspiration received from the keynote address of Rev. J. I. Meck of church of the Atonement, Racine, on "The Call of Youth to Consecration," was planted deeply in the hearts of every Leaguer. Rev. R. R. Doering, First English church, Platteville gave a very clear call to youth in "The Call of Youth to Education." In the afternoon address Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D., missionary from Japan, sounded "The Call of Youth to Missions." During his address Dr. Lippard gave many interesting incidents of his personal experience of twenty-six years in Japan. As a climax the convention banquet was featured by a very inspiring address by Rev. Prof. P. H. Roth of the Northwestern Theological Seminary, Minneapolis on "The Call of Youth to Life Service."

The convention followed a well planned outline, and was carried out on schedule time, but it is the opinion of the writer full three days should be allowed for our conventions. Friday afternoon and early evening was devoted to registration and assignment of entertainment accommodations, Miss Meralda Ostrander in charge of this work did splendid work in juggling the rush on her committee. The opening session was in charge of Rev. N. K. Fedderson, Pentecost church, Milwaukee, who conducted the vesper service, and introduced the speaker of the evening, Rev. J. I. Meck, of Racine. Following the address Rev. L. W. Steckel, pastor-loci, extended a cordial greeting and welcome on behalf of the League and congregation, Walter A. Leininger of Kenosha, acting president, responded for the Leaguers. A social hour and reception for delegates and visitors followed.

Saturday morning session opened with a short devotional service in charge of Rev. William Niebling, Wauwatosa, at 9 o'clock. The convention then settled down to the business of receiving the reports of the various officers and committees. The Treasurer's report showed a total of $792.38 passed through the Treasury during the past year, of which $612.06 was for Andhra Christian College, the state quota is $700, Intermediate contributions for Andhra Fund $40.26, Junior $21.86. Fine work. After the appointment of committees the address of Rev. Doering was heard, followed by the report of the State Educational Secretary, Mr. Carl V. Raupach, of Milwaukee.

The morning session closed with a twenty-minute period during which Mrs. S. T. "Min" Peterson of Chicago, gave a notebook talk on "Life and Power" to the Devotional Meeting and Business Meeting. Before partaking of a sumptuous meal we adjourned to face the hottest September sun known in years in Wisconsin and to have our picture *took*. Everybody happy.

The afternoon session was called to order at 1:30 P.M. to listen to an organ recital by Miss C. Dieckman, followed by vesper service in charge of Rev. E. L. Moerke, pastor Church of Incarnation, Milwaukee. The acting president called for the report of the Extension Committee as first order of business, the report recommended the reception of 4 senior Leagues, Holy Trinity, West Allis; Zion, Horicon; Trinity, Marshfield; Incarnation, Milwaukee. Intermediate Leagues at Resurrection, Epiphany and Lake Park, Milwaukee, Junior Leagues at St. Johns, Elkhorn and Holy Communion, Racine. This report reveals the splendid progress made in the Intermediate and Junior departments the past year.

The Banner committee report awarded the state banner to the League keeping the most number of points in the 14-point standard to Senior League of St. John's, Elkhorn. Special mention was given to Intermediate League of Redeemer, Grand Avenue, Milwaukee, keeping 100 per cent of National 16-point standard.

An interesting feature of the Intermediate and Junior Secretary's report was the reading of the prize winning essay on "What does the church expect of me as an Intermediate" by the winner Miss Audrey Dusold of Epiphany League, Milwaukee. Miss Gertrude Schmidt of Resurrection, Milwaukee, won second honors. The essay revealed the fact that the Intermediates know the mission of the League.

During the counting of the ballots for election, the delegates were treated to the address of Dr. Lippard on Missions. This was followed by the report of the missionary secretary Mr. Walter A. Leininger of Grace Church, Kenosha. The missionary secretary deeply regretted the fact that Andhra Christian College Fund campaign had not yet been completed, and appealed to Leagues not yet contributing to hurry, in order to assure an early completion, $88 still necessary to raise the $700 quota. The recommendation of the secretary that the convention accept the appeal of the Northwest Synodical Home Mission Board, through Dr. Bieber of Minneapolis, present to make the appeal for help in the support of the Traveling Field Missionary for Northern Minnesota with a $250 pledge was accepted and adopted as the 1926-1927 missionary objective. The convention then adjourned to meet at the convention Banquet, held at the Milwaukee Athletic Club.

It was the *biggest* and the *best* banquet ever held by the Luther Leaguers of Wisconsin. Spirit of Fun and Frolic prevailed at proper time and im proper manner, the Leaguers, over 230 in number, willingly settled down when the Toastmaster, Mr. John Schaum, of Lake Park, Milwaukee, introduced the speaker of the evening, the Rev. Prof. P. H. Roth, of Minneapolis, who challenged the Leaguers with "The Call of Youth to Life-Service." Mrs. Peterson was present and gave a Reading to the delight of all present excepting pastor Niebling, who absolutely refused to marry the widow.

Sunday saw the closing of the convention. The Leaguers spent the morning visiting various Lutheran churches and institutions for morning services. The Deaconess Motherhouse, and the Hospital were visited. The vesper service at three was conducted by the Rev. C. Fritz of Waukesha. The banner was awarded. The newly elected officers were installed by the Rev. Mr. Niebling, of Wauwatosa, past president of State League. Following this service the Leaguers adjourned to the basement to be entertained by the Washington Park Leaguers who presented the missionary play "Robert and Mary." The convention closed with a luncheon, and the delegates and visiting Leaguers wended their way homeward, eager to get busy *obeying* the call to greater service.

The following officers were elected and appointed:

Walter A. Leininger, Kenosha, President; John Schaum, Milwaukee, Vice-President; Caroline Niebling, Wauwatosa, Recording Secretary; Ruth Wuerzberger, Racine, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. P. E. Luety, Beloit, Treasurer; Rev. Chas. E. Fritz, Waukesha, chairman Extension Committee; Geo. Rapps, Milwaukee, member Executive Committee, three years; Miss Meralda Ostrander, Intermediate and Junior Secretary; Mr. Carl Raupach, Educational Secretary; Rev. F. O. Briesicke, Life-Service; Mrs. Carl Raupach, Sustaining Membership.

Funny how Clarence Dittmer smiles out of League groups, N. S. E. and W. Here his setting is our Pacific-Northwesters.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION

Kathryn Brueggeman

The Pacific Northwest District Luther League held its seventh annual convention in Imanuel Lutheran Church, Centralia, Washington, Rev. F. T. Lucas, pastor, August 20th-22nd, 1926.

There have been larger attended conventions in the United States than this one but per square inch of mass, there was just as much interest, pep, goodwill and seriousmindedness as in any of them. From the coming of the first of the clan until the last of the good-byes were said, one heard the frequent exclamation "Isn't this fine"?

The mayor of Centralia, Mr. Geo. L. Barner, welcomed the Leaguers to convention and attended our picnic supper and social Saturday evening. Pastor Lucas is the "first citizen" of this thriving city and a very enthusiastic Luther Leaguer.

The program carried splendid topics for discussion. The addresses were well prepared and inspiring. The business was done with promptness and with entire good-will. The dining tables were loaded with good things to eat and were enthusiastically patronized. What a convention! Recommendations to stress Junior League work and to oversubscribe the Andhra Christian College fund were adopted.

The "big chief" was Mr. Clarence C. Dittmer of New York City, our National Treasurer. The convention adjourned to meet him at the depot late Saturday afternoon. New Yorkers think themselves far from home and mother when they get to the Pacific Coast and when this delegation descended upon him he looked much frightened as if he thought it might he a band of wandering Indians from the "wild and woolly West." He soon learned that most of them were civilized and permitted himself to be led to the convention church where he later gave several splendid addresses.

The next convention will be held in St. Paul's church in Seattle in 1927.

Officers elected were as follows:

President—Miss Kathryn Brueggeman, Seattle, Wash.

Vice-President—Mr. Arthur Vagts, Seattle, Wash.

Recording Secretary—Miss Agnes Moe, Seattle, Wash.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Minnie Neumann, Centralia, Wash.

Treasurer—Mr. O. F. Wille, Tacoma, Wash.

LUTHER LEAGUE ECHOES

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(Miss Alga Lindsenmeyer)

DREAMS BECOME REALITIES

For a year the members of Immanuel Luther League, and the congregation of the Bluefield Church dreamed of "The Fifth Annual Convention of the Luther League of the Virginia Synod," which had been invited to meet with them. Hopes and dreams had been built high—at times it seemed that hopes might be beyond attainment. On August 25th dreams began to be realized, and when the Convention closed on Friday evening August the 27th. every hope had been realized to the Nth degree!!! Owing to some misunderstanding there was a shower the opening night, but the local President was right on the job, and by the time the General Secretary of the Luther League of America, The Rev. Mr. A. J. Traver, arrived the following morning the sun was hanging in the sky in all of its glory.

THANKS TO THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Convention in its entirety was deeply appreciative of the excellent program prepared by the program Committee. Those serving on the Committee were, Miss Louise Saker, Roanoke, Va., Miss Mary Propst, Roanoke, Va., and Mr. Jacob Hoback, Bluefield, W. Va.

THE THEME AND DEVOTIONALS

The theme of the Convention, "Come ye apart with Christ," was very beautifully given by the Rev. Mr. Paul L. Royer of the Convention Church. The Devotional Services for the Thursday and Friday sessions were as follows: "Come ye apart to *meditate* with Christ," conducted by Robert Williams of Marion, Va.; "Come ye apart to *study* with Christ," conducted by Gehard Henrickson of Richmond, Va.; "Come ye apart to *pray* with Christ," conducted by E. L. Miller of Roanoke, Va.; "Come ye apart to *work* with Christ," conducted by Vivian Cronk of Salem, Va. Each of the above services were so inspiring that all present were made to feel that they had truly been apart with the Master.

IMPRESSIVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

So beautiful and impressive was the Candle Light Service on the opening night of the Convention, conducted by Miss Mary Propst, of Roanoke, Va., that the reporter wishes it were possible to have enough space to give the service in detail, but since this is not possible, it is suggested that every delegate put forth an effort to give the same service in his or her League.

The only thing blue about the Va. Convention was the name of the Convention City! Yes, sister, it was Bluefield!

Echoes from the Niagara Convention

Miss Thelme Graham of Stephen City was the fraternal Delegate from the Virginia League to "Greatest Convention ever Held." From the report given by Miss Graham we are sure "Ole New York did shine!" We regret that New York did not send a delegate to our Convention so we could "show them how it's done in old Virginny."

Our Friend and Helper

It was indeed a privilege to have the General Secretary of the Luther League of America, the Rev. A. J. Traver with us. We used Mr. Traver to the Nth degree, in getting information and inspiration. The duties of the officers and secretaries were outlined in a most helpful way. Quite a number of the Leaguers took part in the Discussions led by our Secretary. The Banquet talk and the address, "What Ought to Be Done, Can Be Done," were both 100 per cent. *plus!!!*

Feast—Fun—Fellowship

The above three words refer to the Banquet held for the Leaguers in the West Virginia Hotel, on Thursday evening. Mr. Ralph Hefner of Chicago served as Toastmaster. If anyone wants a banquet to "go across" we suggest sending for Mr. Hefner. Mrs. Harry Ross, Miss Nanie Rae Hefner, Mr. Greenspon, and the Beaver High School Orchestra delighted the hearers with several fine musical selections. Dr. Charles Smith of Roanoke College, made the folks sit up and take notice when he announced his subject as, "The Humbuggery of the Luther League." We all decided there was a bit of the "humbug" in all of us, *but* as Dr. Smith said, "We're all right!" While Dr. Smith kept the smiles playing around the mouth corners, he gave some splendid food for thought.

The Rev. Mr. Traver delighted the "Banqueteers" with the message on, "Results." Two other talks given during the evening by Olga Linsenmeyer and Fritz Hamer were enjoyed by everyone.

The climax of the evening was reached when the various Conferences pulled off stunts. Mrs. McCauley was so pleased with the stunts that she is going to go back to India and have her boys pull off all the stunts used at our Convention. It would be really hard to tell which was the best.

Not only was the fun and fellowship most complete, but every Leaguer registered 100 per cent. appetites when the feast of fried chicken was forthcoming!!!

Banner and Standard Leagues

Hats off to Grace Luther League, Rural Retreat, Va.!!! The only League in the entire Synod to gain every point on the Standard of Excellence was the above mentioned League. To all other Leagues who want to have a goal for the coming year, we would say, "go thou and do likewise!" Following is a list of the Leagues gaining twelve of the fifteen points on the Standard of Excellence: Immanuel, Bluefield; Bethany, Lexington; Hebron, Madison; First, Richmond; Virginia Heights, Roanoke; College, Salem; Trinity, Stephen City; Grace, Winchester. Let us all strive to have either a Banner or Standard League to report to the 1927 Convention. Any League can do this if it starts *now*.

Welcome to the New Leagues

We were mighty happy to welcome several new Leagues into our Synodical Ranks. To these Leagues we pledge our interest and cooperation and ask that they do their part in making the Virginia Luther League the best in the whole U. L. C. We hope and pray that many more Leagues may be organized in the coming year.

Life Service Flag Given to League

A beautiful silk Life Service Flag was presented to the League by five of the Leaguers of the Synod. The flag was presented in a most impressive service to the League by the Life Service Secretary of the Synodical League, Miss Rachel Crigler of Madison, Virginia. After the presentation of the flag Miss Crigler gave a most inspiring message concerning working for the Master, and reported four Leaguers already in the Ministry, four in training for the Ministry, four in full time Christian service, six in training for full time Christian service in the capacity of Church secretaries, Parish workers, or Missionaries, and two in training for the Diaconate.

Discussion Period by Miss Scherer

Miss May Scherer the National Missionary Secretary of the Luther League of America conducted a period of discussion on Missionary Methods. Many new ideas and suggestions were given, and we feel sure that many Leagues have found solutions through this period for their missionary activities. The Virginia League is mighty proud to claim Miss Scherer as their very own.

The Greatest Joy

The greatest joy of the Convention was the presence of Dr. and Mrs. Victor McCauley, missionaries from India. The addresses by both of these workers were most inspiring. We were especially glad for the beautiful tribute paid our own Miss Moses by Mrs. McCauley. The prayers of the League of Virginia will ever follow these friends whom they have learned to love. In appreciation of the inspiration which was brought through these workers, the Leagues gave them a copy of "Handy" to use in working with the young people of India.

Virginia League Made S. M. by Convention

The Luther League of the Virginia Synod was made a Sustaining Member. We hope all of the Local Leagues will work for the S. M. fund. It is absolutely necessary to have funds to carry on our work. Let us get behind this objective and make it *go!!!*

Play by Local League

Very impressive was the play, "The Conversion of Honorable Mrs. Ling," given by the local League. Many Leaguers have resolved to return to their homes and give the play for the folks at home.

On to Salisbury!!!

The National Convention of the Luther League of America will meet in Salisbury, N. C., on July

4th, 1927. *Will Virginia be represented?* Well we should say so!! Let us set our goal for "100 from Virginia in Salisbury." The delegates appointed to represent our League are: Gerhard Henrickson, Christine Eisnehour, Thelma Graham, Catherine Cox, Fritz Hamer, Rachel Crigler, Cecil Hefner, Nellie Shutters, Jessie Cronk, and Louise Saker. The alternates are: Martin Neff, Henrietta Cornwall, Elizabeth Anderson, Naomi Brooks, Mary Markley, Mr. Duncan, Ethel Tussing, Chester Sheppe, Gladys Hartsell, and Marguerite Teaford.

OUR NEXT CONVENTION

Most grateful are we to Ascension Luther League, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and St. James Luther League, Greenville, Tenn., for the invitations extended for our next Convention to meet with them. The decision will be made by the Executive Committee. The Leaguers are already singing, "I want to be in Tennessee, when the next Convention meets."

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were elected for the new year: President, F. C. Hamer, Staunton, Va.; Vice-President, Robert Umberger, Bluefield, W. Va.; Recording Secretary, Gerhard Henrickson, Richmond, Va.; Treasurer, Joe Fray, Madison, Va.; Statistical Secretary, Maxine Howard, Lynchburg, Va. The officers were installed by the Rev. Paul L. Royer of Bluefield. Let us all rally around our officers, and give to them our very best support.

DEEPLY APPRECIATED

The kindness of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Royer, the many courtesies of the local Leaguers and Congregation, the good luncheons served by the Ladies' Guild, the kindness of friends of the Congregation, the publicity given by the Bluefield *Daily Telegraph*, the courtesy of the management of the West Virginian Hotel, and Y. W. C. A. were appreciated by all delegates and visitors of the Convention. The Bluefielders were also appreciative of the consideration on the part of the delegates, and their ability to make themselves at home. It was an honor and joy to entertain such a fine group of young folks.

APART WITH CHRIST

Our coming apart to the Bluefield Convention to meditate, study and pray with Christ has inspired us to go forward in our local Leagues and work with Christ. Our thought might be expressed in the words of the poet when he said:

"My life is not my own, but Christ's, who gave it,
And He bestows it upon all the race;
I lose it for His sake, and thus I save it;
I hold it close, but only to expend it;
Accept it, Lord, for others, through Thy grace!"

—❦—

SOUTH CAROLINA

"Oh, it's great to be a Leaguer in Charleston!" Here are some recent doings of the Luther League of St. Matthew's, Charleston, Louis F. Hackemann, President.

The young people collected clothing and needed articles for a poor family in order that the children might attend school.

They held an annual meeting and banquet, the guest of honor being the new pastor, Rev. Walter C. Davis, D.D. He has just been in Charleston a short time but has endeared himself to the Leaguers. The meeting was a live one, with much enthusiasm and pep.

One afternoon the members went down to Folly Beach for a "wiener roast" and swim. The weather was glorious and all had a wonderful time.

This League is proud of its record for the past year. They have four Sustaining Members of the L. L. of A. and the following report of the disbursements of the Treasurer will give an idea of some of its work:

Luther League of South Carolina	$250.00
Dues to L. L. of A.	15.00
Dues to Charleston District	5.00
Two Sustaining Memberships	10.00
Subscriptions to Lutheran	3.00
Near East Relief	10.00
Assyrian Relief	3.50
Andhra Christian College	50.00
Southern Luth. Seminary	25.00
Socials, Flowers, Books, Miscellaneous.	106.64

MARYLAND

159 Washington Leaguers motored to Baltimore for the fall fellowship meeting in September. Rev. and Mrs. Harry Goedeke, on furlough from India, both long time League enthusiasts, were the speakers.

BALTIMORE will celebrate this month at Christ Church with an anticipated attendance of *two thousand Leaguers.* Dr. Ross Stover, of Philadelphia, will be the speaker. Won't the newly married pastor of Christ Church beam at that crowd?

THE LUTHER PLAY by Mrs. Monroe will be given November 26th in the Washington Auditorium by the Columbia District youth.

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IOWA

THAT INDEX is loose again. Editor Rube Lampe certainly has a nose for news. He also has a slippery pen! Listen to this introduction: "Trudy has swum the channel—and so have several others. Miss Tulso has been chosen as Miss America so *that* is off our minds. Baseball is drawing rapidly to a close and summer vacations are over. *Let's get back to work!*"

BURLINGTON planned a joint meeting with MUSCATINE but rain (and Iowa roads) forbade So the supper meeting was held at the home Churches. Better weather next time!

DUBUQUE took another "auto hike"—blazing fire, a few blankets on the grass, eats, songs, a cheerful group of likable young folks, ideal setting for a business-social meet.

Arlo Ketelsen says of CLINTON "Our League is quite all right now, but we expect to show still more pep following election of officers."

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INDIANA

IND-KY-TENN which is code for the Indiana Synod Bulletin displays in bold type "OUR FACES ARE IN THE REVIEW! HOORAY!" And follows with an appeal for subscriptions. Becoming modesty, but anyway we hope they get the subscriptions.

The Andhra quota is all paid and now Indiana is after the $500 to aid missions in MEMPHIS and NEWCASTLE. Missionary giving leads to more missionary giving. Subtracting money from the local Church for India means adding money for the Church in America. Try it out! Indiana, you have the right idea!

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE

Seattle, Washington

The month of September brought several visitors to the Pacific Coast. Mr. Fritz Krieger who is the son of one of our prominent Lutheran missionaries in China, and who has been in China for the past year returned to the United States to complete his college education. While in Seattle, Mr. Krieger was the guest of the Pacific Northwest District Luther League at a beach party at the home of the president, Miss Kathryn Brueggeman. Fifty of our most enthusiastic Seattle Leaguers gathered to meet Mr. Krieger; after a picnic supper, the evening was spent around the bonfire with singing and story-telling.

Miss J. Dorothy Borgstede spent a day in Seattle enroute to Los Angeles with her parents. Miss Borgstede is the Missionary Secretary of the New York State Luther League. Members of the three Seattle Leagues and a Tacoma League banqueted together in her honor and later spent the evening with entertainment from "Handy" at the home of Miss Dorothy Johnson.

Leaders such as these certainly are an inspiration to our work as a District.

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